GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA

DURING

1914-1915.

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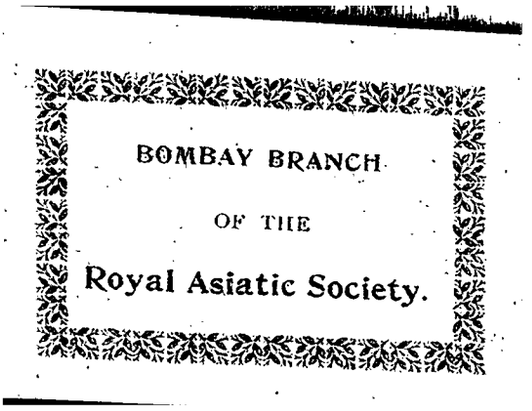

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

1914–1915.

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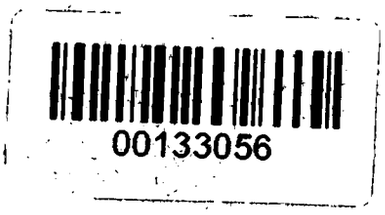

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PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

SUMMARY.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

—:o:—

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.		
The Lieutenant-Governor	i	1
HEADQUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOURS—		
Headquarters of Government	i	2
Tours	i	3
CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION—		
Executive Council	i	4
Indian and Provincial Civil Services ...	i	5
New Subdivisions	ii	6
STATES HAVING DIRECT POLITICAL RELATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA—		
Khond rebellion	ii	7
Precedence of the Chiefs	ii	8
Adoption *sonads*	ii	9
Mayurbhanj State Railway	ii	10
CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE	ii	11
FAMINE AND FLOODS	iii	12
CHAPTER II—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.		
REALISATION OF REVENUE—		
Revenue and Cess	iii	13
Amendment of Cess Act	iii	14
Minor Innovations	iii	15
CERTIFICATE PROCEDURE—		
Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act	iv	16
SURVEYS—		
Traverse Surveys	iv	17
Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office ...	iv	18
LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT—		
Bihar Settlement	iv	19
Chota Nagpur	iv	20
Revision Settlement, North Bihar ...	v	21
Future Programme	v	22
Final reports	v	23
Rules and Forms	v	24
Maintenance of Land records	v	25
Miscellaneous	v	26

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER II—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—*concluded.*		
WARDS AND ATTACHED ESTATES—		
Number under management	vi	27
Works of improvement	vi	28
Delegation of powers	vi	29
REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES—		
Tenancy Acts	vi	30
CHAPTER III—PROTECTION.		
COURSE OF LEGISLATION	vi	31
POLICE—		
Staff	vi	32
Discipline	vii	33
Crime	vii	34
Criminal Tribes	vii	35
Chota Nagpur Rural Police Act	vii	36
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	vii	37
JAILS—		
Juvenile Prisoners	vii	38
Personnel	viii	39
Aid to discharged prisoners	viii	40
Gaya Jail Press	viii	41
CIVIL JUSTICE	viii	42
REGISTRATION—		
Comparative figures	viii	43
Staff	viii	44
Rules under Indian Companies Act ...	viii	45
MUNICIPALITIES AND DISTRICT BOARDS—		
District Boards	viii	46
Unions	ix	47
Municipalities	ix	48
Waterworks	x	49
Conservancy	x	50
Audit of Accounts	x	51
MARINE	x	52
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.		
AGRICULTURE—		
Staff	x	53

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*concluded*.		
AGRICULTURE—*concluded*.		
Agricultural Institutions	xi	54
Well-boring operations	xi	55
FISHERIES	xi	56
VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—		
Staff	xi	57
Inoculation	xi	58
Cattle census	xi	59
Improvement of cattle and of milk supply ...	xii	60
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—		
General features	xii	61
Audit of Co-operative Societies	xii	62
Liquidation	xiii	63
WEATHER AND CROPS	xiii	64
FORESTS—		
Area	xiii	65
Future treatment of the Khurda protected forests	xiii	66
Declaration of the Sambalpur Division as a major charge	xiii	67
Protection of private forests	xiii	68
Staff	xiii	69
MANUFACTURES AND MINES—		
Coal	xiv	70
Accidents	xiv	71
Iron, Copper and Mica mines	xiv	72
Factories	xiv	73
TRADE	xiv	74
BUILDINGS	xv	75
COMMUNICATIONS	xvi	76
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS ...	xvi	77
RAILWAYS—		
Administration	xvi	78
Mileages	xvi	79
Surveys	xvii	80
Accidents	xvii	81
CANALS—		
Productive works	xvii	82
Protective works	xvii	83
EMBANKMENTS AND DRAINAGE	xvii	84

	Page	Para.
CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.		
IMPERIAL FINANCE	xvii	85
EXCISE—		
General	xvii	86
Excise Administration	xviii	87
PROVINCIAL FINANCE	xviii	88
LOCAL FINANCE	xix	89
CHAPTER VI—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.		
VITAL STATISTICS—		
Vital Statistics	xix	90
Cholera	xix	91
Small-pox	xix	92
Plague	xix	93
Fevers...	xix	94
INLAND EMIGRATION	xix	95
MEDICAL SERVICE—		
Staff	xx	96
Institutions	xx	97
Medical Schools	xx	98
Medical Registration Bill	xx	99
SANITATION—		
Municipal Sanitation	xxi	100
Sanitary Engineering Establishment ...	xxi	101
Vital Statistics	xxi	102
CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.		
EDUCATION—		
General Progress	xxi	103
Controlling Agency	xxi	104
Arts Colleges	xxii	105
Secondary Education	xxii	106
Primary Education	xxii	107
Training Institutions	xxii	108
Female Education	xxii	109
Muhammadan Education	xxiii	110
LITERATURE AND THE PRESS—		
Newspapers	xxiii	111

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1914-15.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Charles Bayley, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.S.O., was Lieutenant-Governor of the Province throughout the year.

HEADQUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOURS.

2. The headquarters of Government remained at Ranchi throughout the year, though the Lieutenant-Governor went into residence at Bankipore for several months in the cold season. **Head quarters of Government.**

3. His Honour left Bankipore in the beginning of April for Puri, and from there paid short visits to Cuttack, Angul and Khurda, returning to Ranchi on the 13th May. In September a short stay was made at Bankipore and a visit paid to Simla. In October His Honour spent a few days in Darjeeling and at the end of the month moved to Bankipore for the cold weather. He visited Hathwa and Dumraon in December and Rajnagar in February; during the latter month he also made an extensive tour which included Daltonganj, Gobindpur, Jharia, Bhagalpur and Gidhaur. Bettiah and Sakchi were visited in March. **Tours.**

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

4. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait, the Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge and the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameswar Singh of Darbhanga continued to hold office as Members of the Executive Council. During Sir Edward Gait's absence on medical leave from April to September, the Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge was appointed Vice-President of the Council and the temporary vacancy of Member was filled by the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. H. LeMesurier. **Executive Council.**

5. Orders were received from the Secretary of State sanctioning the addition of three posts of Magistrate and Collector and two of Assistant Magistrate to the cadre of the Indian Civil Service, and abolishing two posts of Deputy Magistrate. One of the three superior posts will be listed as open to members of the Provincial Civil Service. **Indian and Provincial Civil Services.**

New Subdivisions.

6. A new subdivision was opened at Chatra in the district of Hazaribagh in November 1914, and arrangements were made for establishing another at Simdega in the district of Ranchi. The Government of India have sanctioned the creation of two posts of Deputy Collector and three posts of Sub-Deputy Collector for these new subdivisions.

STATES HAVING DIRECT POLITICAL RELATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

Khond rebellion.

7. The most important event in the history of the Feudatory States was the rising of the Khonds of Daspalla in October 1914. The rising was inspired by Baishnab Charan Deo Bhanj, a relative of the late Chief, whose claim to the succession had been rejected in favour of the Chief's adopted son. The adoption had been made with the full consent of all the leading headmen of the State. At first only thirteen out of about 160 Khond villages were concerned, but the number of the rebels increased as the movement gained ground, and they eventually closed in on the Rajbari at Daspalla, where the minor Chief resided. The Political Agent who went to Daspalla, accompanied by the Agency Forest Officer, to investigate the situation, was obliged to take refuge in the Rajbari, and they with the other inmates were in extreme personal danger till they were relieved by the Commissioner of Orissa, who arrived with a force of 50 armed police just as the Rajbari had been set on fire and was about to be rushed by the rebels. Before the Commissioner arrived, several brutal murders had been committed, and the jail had been broken into and all the prisoners released. The relieving force was followed next day by a detachment of the XVIth Rajputs from Calcutta and later by a force of Gurkha military police from Ranchi who did invaluable work in rounding up the rebels ; they received useful assistance in this work from the Ganjam and Vizagapatam police. Altogether about 1,500 Khonds out of a total population of some 12,000 took an active part in the rising.

In the course of the operations 512 prisoners, including most of the ringleaders and actual murderers, were captured. Of these 117 were put on their trial, the remainder who were merely the rank and file being released on the completion of the criminal investigation. Special consideration will be shown at the next Settlement to those parganas and villages which remained loyal throughout.

Precedence of the Chiefs.

8. The vexed question of precedence among the Feudatory Chiefs of Orissa, which had not been fully determined since the transfer of certain States from the Central Provinces to Bengal in 1905, was finally decided by the Local Government.

Adoption *Sanads*.

9. Adoption *Sanads* were granted by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to the Chiefs of Bonai, Gangpur, Seraikela and Kharsawan.

Mayurbhanj State Railway.

10. The Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the extension of the Mayurbhanj State Railway from its present terminus at Baripada to Talband, a distance of 38·69 miles.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

11. The year was not a very prosperous one for the agriculturist. On the other hand the public health was good on the whole, except in the Orissa Division, where epidemics of small-pox and cholera broke out. Plague was less

virulent than usual. Cattle diseases caused considerable loss especially in the Chota Nagpur Division, but the prejudice against inoculation is showing signs of dying out. The co-operative movement continued to contribute to the economic and social well-being of the people.

FAMINE AND FLOODS.

12. The failure of the late rains was almost universal and the winter rice crop was adversely affected in nearly every district. The *bhadoi* and *rabi* crops also were generally below the average. There were, however, no devastating floods and there was no actual famine or even serious scarcity ; and in the main, high prices compensated the agriculturists, who form the bulk of the population, while the labouring class benefited by an increase of wages in proportion to the rise in the prices of food-grains.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REALISATION OF REVENUE.

Revenue and Cess.

13. The current demand of Land Revenue showed an increase of a little over one lakh, due chiefly to the resettlement of the temporarily-settled estates in Shahabad, the transfer of some leased estates to direct management and revised assessment in certain Khas Mahals in Orissa.

The percentages of total collections to total demand and of current collections to current demand were slightly lower than in the previous year, but the arrear balance outstanding at the close of the year was the lowest of the last five years.

The cess demand rose by Rs. 75,355, mainly on account of the annual revision of the assessment on mines and forests in Manbhum and Hazaribagh districts and of revaluation operations in the district of Purnea.

Amendment of Cess Act.

14. A Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council to amend the Cess Act (Bengal Act IX of 1880). The main object of the Bill is to legalize the disposal of the Public Works Cess by the District Boards and Committees but the opportunity has been taken to introduce a few necessary amendments in other portions of the Act. Of these the most important is the amendment of Chapter IIA of the Act in order to allow of the valuation-roll being prepared on the basis of the record-of-rights as finally framed instead of at an earlier stage in the settlement proceedings. Provision is also made to enable Collectors in certain cases to collect the cess directly from tenure-holders and usufructuary mortgagees.

Minor innovations.

15. Instructions have been issued by Government to ensure uniform procedure in the matter of warning notices and the issue of certificates for fines imposed under Section 65 of the Land Registration Act. Good conduct allowances have been awarded to Patwaris in the district of Sambalpur, a privilege which has been conferred on such officers in the Central Provinces. Government have approved of revised standard percentages for the collection of Land

Revenue in temporarily-settled estates and estates held direct by Government in certain districts. At the request of the Local Government, the Government of India have cancelled the restriction under which Kanungos could draw no travelling allowance for the first fifteen miles of a road journey.

CERTIFICATE PROCEDURE.

Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act.

16. The Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act (Bihar and Orissa Act IV of 1914) was passed into law and came into force on November *1st, 1914.* The new Act provides in itself a complete procedure of execution without reference to the Code of Civil Procedure and removes certain anomalies and difficulties which had arisen in the working of the Bengal Public Demands Recovery Act of 1895.

SURVEYS

Traverse Surveys.

17. The principal work of the Survey Department was the traverse survey in the district of Palamau. The traverse of the Gandak *diara* in Champaran and of the Ganges *diara* in the districts of Bhagalpur, the Santal Parganas and Purnea was also completed, and some other isolated surveys were undertaken.

Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.

18. The provincial Drawing Office was transferred from Calcutta to Patna and the Imperial Standard Mapping Section was placed under the administrative control of the Director of Surveys of Bengal. Good progress has been made in the preparation of standard maps, and only twelve sheets of the Province of Bihar and Orissa, relating to the districts of Gaya, Palamau and Manbhum, now remain to be taken up.

LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT.

Bihar Settlement.

19. The survey and settlement operations in Shahabad were concluded and the recovery of costs completed. In Gaya attestation of about two million plots was done, and suits and applications for settlement of rent, decision of disputes and commutation of produce-rents were taken up in four thanas. In this district produce-rents largely predominate over cash rents, and there were numerous disputes as to the particular system in vogue, and as to the respective shares of the landlord and tenant.

Chota Nagpur.

20. In Hazaribagh all the operations have been concluded except the settlement of rents which was still in progress at the close of the year. In Palamau the attestation and draft publication of records of 1,172 square miles were completed, and case work under Sections 83 (1) and 111 (6) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act for the same area was begun. The cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing of a further area of 1,459 square miles were also completed. The most noticeable features disclosed in the course of the year's work were the general prevalence of the *kamiauti* system under which the landless labourer is for all practical purposes the bond-slave of his employer, the prevalence of enhancements of rent effected otherwise than through the agency of the Courts, the apparently high incidence of cash rents in part of the area attested, the failure of many landlords to grant receipts, and the general insecurity of tenure. Further light will be thrown on the extent to which these evils prevail, and on the economic and other causes to which they may be ascribed in the course of the succeeding year's operations, and the question of the measures which may be necessary to secure an improvement in the agrarian conditions of this district will be duly considered.

Cadastral survey and settlement operations were also in progress in the into Kolhan Government Estate in Singhbhum. Special enquiries were held the existence of *khuntkatti* rights and more than 6 per cent. of the raiyats were recorded as *khuntkattidars*. These figures, however, are not yet final.

Revision Settlement, North Bihar.

21. A large programme of revision work was undertaken in Champaran. Map revision and preliminary record-writing of an area of 1,742 square miles and attestation and case work of an area of 1,511 square miles were completed. The extent to which the original record prepared in 1897-98 is out of date is illustrated by the fact that in the former area the number of plots was found to have increased by no less than 25 per cent. The close interest with which the proceedings were followed, and the large number of objections to the attested record filed under section 103-A are indications that the uses and value of the record are fully appreciated. On the other hand, the payment by tenants in part of the area of various demands over and above the recorded rent, which have now been excised as *abwab*, shows that knowledge of their rights filters but slowly into the minds of the more unsophisticated tenantry of backward and lightly-rented areas. The question of these *abwab* gave rise to very strained relations between certain of the Bettiah and Ramnagar estate *thikadars* and their tenants. Elsewhere friendly relations between landlords and tenants were to some extent disturbed over the question of what is known as *sharahbeshi*, *i.e.*, the enhancement of rent in consideration of the abrogation of the obligation of the raiyats to grow indigo in three-twentieths of their holdings. The difficult problem as to the legality of these enhancements arose in a comparatively few villages in the area dealt with during the year, but will be met with more frequently in the area to be attested in the succeeding year.

Future Programme.

22. Sanction has been obtained to the inception of survey and settlement operations in the district of Manbhum, excluding the two parganas of which the record-of-rights has already been completed. This district is the only considerable area in the Province for which a record-of-rights has not been, or is not being, prepared.

Final reports.

23. Final reports were received of the operations in South Monghyr, Orissa, the Monoharpur Estate in Singhbhum and the permanently-settled estate of Killa Bishunpur in Cuttack. The final report on the operations in Hazaribagh and in the Barabhum and Patkum parganas of Manbhum was begun.

Rules and Forms.

24. Revised forms for rent money orders under the three Tenancy Acts of the Province were prescribed, and rules were issued regulating the course of appeals from Revenue Officers in rent commutation cases under the Orissa Tenancy Act.

Maintenance of Land records.

25. Sanction was given to the preparation of new maps and records for the Sambalpur district. The village maps maintained by the Patwaris were found to be incorrect and obsolete. After the initial difficulties were overcome, good progress was made in the training of the Patwaris to more scientific methods. Maps covering an area of 294 square miles have been completed and ultimately the district will have up-to-date and accurate maps and records on which to base the next settlement.

Miscellaneous.

26. Owing to the unfavourable agricultural outlook, the rent settlement of the Sauria Paharia hills in the Santal Parganas was postponed, as also was the recovery of costs in five thanas of the Hazaribagh district. The Secretary

of State has sanctioned the proposal that the services of officiating Munsifs in the Settlement Department, prior to confirmation in the Judicial Branch should count for pension.

WARDS AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

Number under management.

27. Two new estates were taken under management and ten estates were released. At the close of the year 160 estates were under management, of which 101 were managed under the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act. No important estate was either taken over or released.

Works of Improvement.

28. The amount spent on works of improvement, schools and dispensaries was Rs. 4,07,545, or Rs. 26,027 less than in the previous year. The Bettiah Estate spent large sums in building and maintaining schools and dispensaries, and in providing stipends for students at various colleges.

Delegation of powers.

29. In order to reduce the amount of correspondence in the offices of the larger estates, and to avoid delays, the Local Government have delegated enhanced powers to all Managers of Estates with a rent and cess demand of one lakh of rupess or over. Certain additional powers have been delegated to the Manager of the Bettiah Ward's Estate as a special case.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES.

Tenancy Acts.

30. The working of the three Tenancy Acts in force in different parts of the Province continued to be carefully watched. Certain minor defects in the Chota Nagpur Act have been brought to notice, and material is now being collected with a view to their removal. The question of bringing those provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act which deal with produce-rents into line with the corresponding provisions of the Orissa Act is also under consideration. The inadequacy of the law at present in force in Bihar was brought into prominence during the recently-completed settlement operations in the Monghyr and Patna districts, and the different problems involved are being considered in the course of the operations now in progress in Gaya, where the system of produce-rents prevails to an extent unknown elsewhere in the Province.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION.

31. The Jharia Water Supply Act and the Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act were passed into Law.

POLICE.

Staff.

32. The sanctioned police force at the close of the year 1914 consisted of 70 officers and 13,796 subordinates, the numbers actually employed being somewhat less. The percentage of literate constables shows an improvement and all but three of the newly-recruited Sub-Inspectors had passed the Matriculation examination. The question of adding to the strength of the force and improving the pay of certain ranks is under consideration.

33. The discipline of the force was good, though the number of punishments, both judicial and departmental, was slightly higher than in the previous year. Of 80 charges against the police, 39 were dismissed or found to be false. In ten of these cases, prosecution of the complainants followed, and five convictions were obtained. There has been a satisfactory increase in the number of complaints against the police investigated by Magistrates. **Discipline.**

34. Two cases of political crime were dealt with, the first that had occurred in this Province. The first was the murder of a *mahant* at Nimej in the district of Shahabad which occurred in March 1913. A clue obtained a year later led to aprosecution which ended in the conviction of the two principal accused. The other was a dakaiti near Jajpur in the Cuttack district, in which it was found impossible to bring the offenders to justice. A satisfactory decrease occurred in the number of dakaitis owing largely to the special measures for preventing this form of crime in Purnea and in the Jamtara subdivision of the Santal Parganas. The number of robberies, burglaries and cattle-thefts fell considerably, but there was an increase in offences against public tranquillity, due chiefly to rioting cases in the districts of Darbhanga and Monghyr. No serious religious riot occurred and there was a decrease in the number of cases in which preventive action under the Criminal Procedure Code was taken. The decrease in the number of land disputes in Shahabad, noticed in last year's report, still continues. **Crime.**

35. The Criminal Tribes Act III, of 1911, has been extended to the Dharhis of Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Patna, to the Dhekarus of the Santal Parganas, and to the Digambar Bhumij of Manbhum. The proposal to send certain convicted members of the Eranga Kol tribe to Assam has been abandoned owing to the refusal of the prisoners to accept the conditions offered to them. The measures to reclaim the Doms of North Bihar through the Salvation Army are still in progress. **Criminal Tribes.**

36. Rules have been issued under the Chota Nagpur Rural Police Act. A Sub-Deputy Collector is to be posted as special Chaukidari officer in each district of the Division. **Chota Nagpur Rural Police Act.**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

37. Statistics showing the work of Criminal Courts during the year 1914 are given in Part II of this Report. During the year 104,053 criminal offences were reported, or 3 per cent. more than in 1913, and 7 per cent. more than in the preceding triennium. The increase was mainly in offences under special and local laws. Sessions Judges did much the same amount of criminal work as in previous years, a slight fall in the number of appeals being balanced by a large number of original cases. District Magistrates disposed of only 63 cases out of a total of 63,914 cases brought to trial during the year.

JAILS.

38. The establishment of a Juvenile Jail at Monghyr during the year marks an important advance in jail administration. Juvenile prisoners will no longer be liable to contamination from hardened criminals, and it is hoped that the good results obtained in other countries from the introduction of the Borstal System will soon be visible in this Province also. **Juvenile prisoners.**

Personnel.

39. The recall to military duty of officers of the Indian Medical Service led to considerable changes in the personnel of the Superintendents. The Central Jails, with the exception of Buxar, are now held as collateral charges by the Civil Surgeons of the districts in which they are situated.

Aid to discharged prisoners.

40. Sanction has been accorded by the Government of India to the payment of a grant not exceeding Rs. 15 in each case as a means of subsistence for indigent prisoners at the time of their discharge. The money is to be paid to relatives or other persons who are found after enquiry to be willing and able to help the discharged prisoners to obtain an honest means of livelihood. The measure is still in an experimental stage.

Gaya Jail Press.

41. The starting of work at the Gaya Jail Press was delayed by the fact that the accommodation and staff required for an annual outturn of about 50 million forms had been undere stimated, but work is now in full swing.

The opening of this press has increased the importance and size of the Gaya Jail, and its status has been raised since the close of the year to that of a second class Central Jail.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

42. The number of original suits instituted was 165,555, showing a decrease of 6,095 on the figures for 1913 and of 7,000 on the average for the previous three years. The disposals numbered 179,059 or 1,405 more than in 1913, and 9,700 more than the triennial average. The number of pending suits fell in consequence from 87,428 to 78,126. The number of suits pending for more than one year has risen from 2,292 in 1913 to 2,342, while the number pending for more than two years has nearly doubled since 1911. The number of appeals pending in subordinate courts was slightly less than at the end of 1913 but there has been a very heavy increase in the number pending for more than one year. The number of appeals pending in the High Court has been materially reduced.

REGISTRATION.

Comparative figures.

43. The total number of documents registered increased by nearly 5 per cent. and the total income of the Department by 6·6 per cent. Most districts shared in this increase; but there was a considerable falling off in Champaran where there had been an abnormal gain in the previous year, and also in Gaya, where it is attributed partly to the opening of Co-operative Credit Societies which afforded facilities for borrowing money without registration of bonds.

Staff.

44. Substantial improvements were effected in the pay and prospects of the employés of the Department by re-grading District Sub-Registrars and Sub-Registrars on a more liberal scale and by reorganizing the ministerial establishments.

A revised rule was issued regarding the period of probation and promotion to grade V of Sub-Registrars.

Rules under India Companies Act.

45. Rules were issued under Section 144 (2) of the Indian Companies Act regarding the grant of certificates entitling the holders thereof to act as auditors of Companies. Two kinds of certificates are provided for : one restricted to the Province of Bihar and Orissa and the other valid throughout British India.

MUNICIPALITIES AND DISTRICT BOARDS.

District Boards.

46. The year was one of increased activity and expenditure on the part of the District Boards, though they have not yet been able to make full use of

their increased resources. There was an increase of over 19 lakhs in the total receipts, and of over 24 lakhs in the expenditure as compared with 1913-14. Additional expenditure occurred chiefly under the heads Civil Works (sixteen lakhs), Medical (over one lakh), Education (nearly three lakhs). The total mileage of metalled roads rose from 1,532 to 1,620, and considerable sums were spent on the construction and maintenance of Railway feeder roads. The expenditure on Education rose from Rs. 11,57,938 to Rs. 14,33,305 owing to the opening of new schools, higher stipends to *gurus*, enhanced pay of teachers in middle vernacular schools, more liberal grants to aided schools and the construction of school buildings. Most of the Boards, however, failed to spend the prescribed minimum on Education, and instructions have been issued that the amounts by which the expenditure has fallen short of this minimum in the two years since the surrender of the Public Works Cess, must be regarded as earmarked for educational expenditure in the future. Similar orders were issued in respect of the expenditure on sanitation, including Medical relief, where also the expenditure was below the prescribed minimum. Under the head Medical, the expenditure rose to Rs. 5,68,860, an increase of 28 per cent. District Boards now maintain 128 dispensaries and give aid to 74. Nine new dispensaries were opened and the management of three others was taken over. The expenditure on sanitation was only Rs. 28,685 greater than in the previous year. The sanitary work done by the Boards included the disinfection of wells, the cleaning of villages and sanitary arrangements at fairs. A sum of Rs. 63,000 was placed at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting the resources of District Boards, and the Local Government also contributed grants aggregating Rs. 8,58,013 for educational purposes. The following grants were made for specific purposes:—Rs. 46,800 for bridging the Lohardaga Ghagra and Ghagra-Bishunpur roads, Rs. 49,758 for the reconstruction of the Ranchi-Daltonganj Road, Rs. 39,500 towards the construction of a bridge over the Rana river in Cuttack, and Rs. 12,000 to supplement the resources of the Sambalpur District Council. The actual balances at the close of the year were generally in excess of the minimum prescribed, though less than in 1912-13.

Unions.

47. The number of Union Committees rose to twelve and proposals to establish eleven more were sanctioned after the close of the year. The development of sanitation in rural areas is one of the most important problems with which District Boards are faced, and so far as the larger villages are concerned it can best be dealt with by the creation of Union Committees.

Municipalities.

48. The total receipts of Municipalities amounted to Rs. 55,00,440 and the disbursements to Rs. 40,62,328, both figures being practically the same as in the previous year. It appears that the Municipalities have failed to take full advantage of the power of taxation on arable lands; in most cases the tax is not levied at all, and even where it is imposed the procedure is unsatisfactory. Large outstanding balances were reported against eight Municipalities; lack of supervision over the collection staff is responsible both for embezzlement and for the failure to realize Municipal dues. Irregular remissions are almost universal and out of 21 revisions of assessment, in only six was an appreciable increase of revenue obtained. The state of affairs in the Monghyr Municipality is particularly unsatisfactory. Contributions aggregating nearly three lakhs were made by Government to six Municipalities, chiefly for waterworks and other sanitary improvements.

Waterworks.

49. The waterworks scheme for Patna Municipality and the new Capital is still under preparation. The waterworks at Gaya were completed, and those at Muzaffarpur are in progress. Minor waterworks schemes for nine Municipalities are at present under examination by the Sanitary Engineer.

Conservancy.

50. The expenditure on conservancy rose to Rs. 6,62,557, an increase of Rs. 43,152. A report is now being drawn up for each Municipality, showing the equipment and staff required for its efficient conservancy. Special attention is being paid to the condition of slaughter-houses, for which type designs have been prepared. With the gradual appointment of Health Officers and trained Sanitary Inspectors, it will be easier for Municipalities to effect improvements in the conservancy of towns.

Audit of Accounts.

51. Since the close of the year the Account Rules have been amended so as to simplify the audit procedure. The special attention of all local bodies has been drawn to the desirability of co-operating with the audit officers. It appears that almost all the irregularities detected by these officers were only rendered possible by the omission to enforce the checks provided in the Account Rules.

Instructions have been issued that the Register of Municipal Lands must be written up, and the lands demarcated as funds are available, in order to prevent encroachments.

MARINE.

52. One hundred and forty-two vessels entered the Orissa ports. The total value of the trade, both export and import, was only Rs. 43,36,000 or less than half that of the previous year. The abnormal decrease was due chiefly to the war.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Staff.

53. The reorganization of the Agricultural Department will have a far-reaching effect. In the past the difficulty has been to keep the Department in touch with the Agriculturist. The utility of Divisional and District Associations, which were intended to be the links between the expert and the cultivator, was seriously hampered by the lack of adequate control of their activities, as well as by the fact that a number of them had to share the services of a single member of the inferior staff, who, whatever his ability might be, was unable to devote a large portion of his time to the work of any particular association. The Divisional Associations have now ceased to exist, and each District Association is to have an Inspector to advise and supervise; and ultimately there is to be a Demonstration farm in each district, thus further enhancing the opportunities for usefulness of the District Associations.

The Deputy Directors have been posted to Patna, Cuttack and Ranchi, and thus each has under his care one of the three main divisions of the Province; the particular problems of which differ largely in nature.

54. A new Agricultural station has been opened at Ranchi, while the Bettiah Farm, which was primarily a cattle station and could not easily be fitted into the new organization, has been handed over to the Salvation Army. **Agricultural Institutions.**

The combined scheme for a sugar-cane selection station and a cattle-breeding farm at Sipaya has been modified ; and, on the recommendation of the Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, that Government have been asked to sanction the appointment of an additional Deputy Director, to be in charge of a sugar-cane selecting station in Tirhut and to assist as a medium of communication between the Research experts of Pusa and the agriculturists of that Division.

55. An Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department has been placed on deputation to summarize the results already obtained, and, in particular, to enquire into the working of Sukul's system of boring in the Province. **Well-boring operations.**

FISHERIES.

56. The activities of the Deputy Director of Fisheries have been devoted chiefly to carp and hilsa culture, and his work has been facilitated by the provision of a steam-launch. The survey of the fishery rights in the main rivers disclosed an unsatisfactory system of repeated sub-letting, which largely accounts for the poverty of the fishermen and the high price of fish. The best remedy for this state of affairs lies in Co-operative Societies and steps are being taken in that direction. The detailed examination of the Chilka Lake produced no promising results.

Bihar and Orissa still shares a single expert in Fisheries with Bengal; it has, however, been decided to ask for a Second Officer who, after training as an Assistant, should be fit to assume independent charge of the work in this Province.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

57. The sanctioned staff has been found to be inadequate to the needs of the Province, and proposals are about to be submitted to the Government of India for the entertainment of a superior staff of three Superintendents and three Deputy Superintendents. The position and prospects of the subordinate staff will also be improved, a step which it is hoped will enable Government to secure a sufficient supply of officers of the right class and to post one stationary and one itinerant Veterinary Assistant to each subdivision in the Province. **Staff.**

58. The steady increase in the number of inoculations performed shows that the prejudices against the operation tend to disappear as its advantages are brought home to the people by practical experience. The experimental scheme for inoculation against hæmorrhagic septicæmia by locally trained inoculators in the Ranchi and Manbhum districts has been extended to rinderpest, and some measure of success has been obtained. **Inoculation.**

59. During the year 1913 a census of livestock was held with a view to the revision of the figures given in the tables of Agricultural Statistics which were known to be out of date and unreliable. The results, which show a marked increase over previous figures, demonstrate fully the necessity for the census which it is proposed to repeat at intervals of five years. **Cattle Census.**

Improvement of cattle and of milk supply.

60. The Government Cattle-Breeding Farm at Sipaya has made satisfactory progress. The herd now consists of 119 head and a few bulls have been supplied to District Boards for distribution to Co-operative Societies.

Special attention is being paid at the cattle farm to the "dual purpose" animal, and arrangements are being made to train there one or more Veterinary Assistants who will then be qualified to supervise model dairies. The success of the Gaya Co-operative Dairy Society, which did not begin under very promising conditions, is most gratifying and shows that a scheme which is both satisfactory to the public and remunerative to the cattle-owners can be carried out.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

General features.

61. The year has been one of steady progress in many directions rather than of phenomenal expansion. The Provincial Bank, which was inaugurated at the end of the previous year, has made a most satisfactory début and the results attained in controlling and co-ordinating the financial activities of the Central societies and in securing to them a due flow of capital afford complete justification, both of the policy which led to its formation, and of the lines on which it has been constituted. The working capital stood at just under three lakhs at the close of the year, while the gross receipts aggregated twenty-three lakhs. The number of central societies other than the Provincial Bank rose from 11 to 18, and their working capital from 8 to 14 lakhs. Eighty-seven per cent. of the agricultural societies are now affiliated to them as against 74 per cent. in May 1914. A Central Society is now in existence in practically every area in which sufficient preliminary work has been done to make its establishment practicable.

Primary agricultural societies have increased in number by 33 per cent. and in membership by 21 per cent., while their working capital has risen from 13 to 17 lakhs.

With a view to the encouragement of co-operative methods among weavers, the weaving schools of the Province have been placed in charge of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

The formation of a Goalas' Co-operative Society at Gaya has been referred to in paragraph 60.

The early cessation of the rains caused a rise in the amount of loans due both to Central and to Primary Societies, but the co-operative movement has weathered a bad year with its financial resources unimpaired.

The future of the movement must depend largely on the spread of primary education. Illiterate villagers cannot grasp the principles of co-operation at once, and there is an inevitable tendency for them to regard these societies as a convenient means of getting advances of the nature of *takavi*. This attitude of mind can best be combated by educating the members in co-operative principles and by bringing home to them their financial stake in their societies. A pamphlet has accordingly been drawn up containing "Twelve Main Points of Co-operation" and the system has been introduced experimentally in a few places of providing capital by shares, and paying a dividend on such shares.

Audit of Co-operative Societies.

62. In view of the difficulty of securing an adequate audit of the increased number of societies, the Local Government sanctioned the entertainment of four Local Auditors for a year and a half.

63. In consequence of the passing of a new Public Demands Recovery Act a revised rule dealing with the procedure to be adopted by a liquidator, was notified in January 1915. **Liquidation.**

WEATHER AND CROPS.

64. In the early part of the year the weather was generally favourable. Excessive rain in August diminished the outturn of *bhadoi* crops in parts of Bihar and the failure of the *Hathiya* rains seriously affected the winter rice crop and restricted *rabi* sowings throughout the Province. The abnormal dryness of November and December further damaged the *rabi* crops. The total outturn of all crops was only 74 per cent. of the normal.

FORESTS.

65. The total area of reserved and protected forests in Bihar and Orissa is 1,727 and 1,063 square miles respectively. In Angul 45 square miles are under partial control of the Forest Department. No important additions were made in the year 1914-15. **Area.**

66. The future treatment of the Khurda forest which had been under the consideration of the Local Government for some time was settled during the year. It has been decided to divide the existing protected forests into two portions. Of these, one consisting of undemarcated areas in and around village sites and cultivation, will be left to the practically unrestricted use of the raiyats and will be placed under the management of the Khas Mahal staff. In this area protection will be limited to a few simple rules restricting the cutting of certain fruit trees, prohibiting or restricting cultivation, and the like. The other portion will consist of demarcated blocks which are worth conserving and require to be protected in the interests of future generations. For these, detailed working plans will be prepared, and steps will be taken, when necessary, to close blocks for a period of years against the cutting of fuel for timber and against grazing. The demarcation is now being carried out. **Future treatment of the Khurda protected forests.**

67. The Sambalpur Division has been declared to be a major charge. **Declaration of the Sambalpur Division as a major charge.**

68. In last year's report it was stated that an officer would be placed on special duty to examine the forests of the Chota Nagpur Division with a view to acquiring land for reservation under the Indian Forest Act and to taking over the control of forest areas in estates managed under the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act. The Special Officer's report is now under the consideration of the Local Government. **Protection of private forests.**

69. As the present size of the cadre does not afford sufficient provision for the preparation of working plans and for sylvicultural research, the Government of India have been asked to sanction the creation of an extra post in the Imperial Service. **Staff.**

Certain improvements in the pay and grading of Foresters, Guards, Deputy Rangers and Rangers have been sanctioned by the Government of India at an additional cost of Rs. 9,744 a year and the services of Forest Guards drawing more than Rs. 10 a month have been classified as "Superior". Arrangements have been made for the training of Deputy Rangers and Foresters at the Balaghat school in the Central Provinces.

MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

Coal.

70. The output from the coal mines of Bihar and Orissa amounted to 10,651,047 tons, or almost two-thirds of the total for the whole of India. The mines afforded employment for 90,000 persons, of whom 74,000 were employed in the Jharia coal field. A serious epidemic of small-pox broke out in this field, but the disease was of a mild type and the mortality was low. The question of extending the provisions of the Vaccination Act to all or part of the coal field was under consideration at the close of the year. Otherwise the general health of the employés was good and cholera only occurred sporadically. The Jharia Mines Board of Health has already done much useful work, and a highly qualified whole-time Chief Sanitary Officer has been appointed, with three Sanitary Inspectors under him. Progress has also been made with the Jharia water-supply scheme, which will eventually ensure an uncontaminated supply of water to the whole of the Jharia coal field.

The smaller collieries were adversely affected by the war, but the demand for first class coal has remained steady.

Accidents.

71. The number of accidents in coal mines shows a small increase but none of them were of a serious character.

Iron, Copper and Mica Mines.

72. The whole of the copper and the greater part of the iron mined in India comes from Singhbhum. The output of copper was 4,400 tons, an increase of 761 tons over the previous year; while the output of iron was 151,029 tons, out of a total of 167,600 tons produced in British India.

Mica is found in Hazaribagh, Gaya and Monghyr. These three districts yielded 31,149 cwts. in the year, representing nearly 82 per cent. of the output of British India. The outbreak of the war seriously affected the mica industry and most of the mines in Monghyr have been closed down.

Factiories.

73. There were 46 factories, an increase of 12 over the previous year, but the average daily number of operatives employed fell from 29,574 to 28,380.

There were 415 accidents of which 13 ended fatally. All the factories were inspected at least once during the year.

The rule regarding the visits of certifying surgeons under the Indian Factories Act was modified, and certifying surgeons now pay four visits a year to factories employing 200 children or less, and twelve visits a year to those employing over 200 children.

TRADE.

74. The external trade of the Province consists of—

(*a*) Sea-borne trade (both foreign and coasting) carried on through the ports of Cuttack, Balasore and Puri.

(*b*) Trans frontier trade with Nepal.

(*c*) Rail and River-borne trade with other Provinces.

(*a*) The foreign trade consists chiefly of the export of rice to Ceylon. The value of the rice exported was Rs. 5,08,349 against Rs. 28,64,723 in 1913-14; the decrease was due mainly to the war. Twenty-six per cent. of the total trade passed through Cuttack, 47 per cent. through Balasore and 27 per cent. through Puri. There were no imports from foreign countries. The value of the coasting trade was Rs. 37·91 lakhs against Rs. 57·51 lakhs in 1913-14.

(*b*) The trade with Nepal showed a further decline. The value of the imports decreased by Rs. 51·14 lakhs and of the exports by Rs. 8·15 lakhs. In the case of imports this falling off occurred mostly under rice, live animals and hides and skins. The decrease in the value of exports was mainly under the head of metals.

(*c*) The interprovincial trade of 1914-15 shows an increase both in the quantity and value of imports, while under exports it shows an increase in quantity accompanied by a decrease in value. The internal trade by rail between different parts of the Province was estimated at nearly 48 million maunds or 18 millions more than in the previous year.

BUILDINGS.

75. Sanction was received to a comprehensive project amounting to Rs. 1,24,00,000 for the new Capital, including works in connection with the temporary headquarters at Ranchi.

At Patna considerable progress was made with the construction of the High Court, Post Office, Government House and Secretariat. The Commissioner's old Court at Bankipore was converted into a residence for the Hon'ble Member of the Board of Revenue. The Commissioner's Courts at Muzaffarpur and Bankipore were completed and a new office was constructed at Bankipore for the Board of Revenue. The Judge's Court at Purulia was in progress.

A new Civil subdivision was opened at Chatra from the 5th November 1914, and all necessary temporary accommodation was provided. The project for the construction of permanent buildings was under consideration. Munsifs Courts were nearly completed at Aurangabad and Bhadrak, and new court buildings were commenced at Bargarh and Simdega.

The new Circuit House at Bhagalpur was nearly completed, and that at Dhanbad was under construction, while materials were collected for a Circuit House at Laheria Serai.

The following works in the Gaya Jail were either in progress or completed :—

(1) Additions and alterations to existing buildings.

(2) Water-supply.

(3) Electric installation.

(4) Residence for the Superintendent of the Press.

(5) Main entrance gate, armoury and Jailor's quarters.

(6) Forms Store.

(7) Racks in the new forms block.

(8) Warders' quarters.

(9) Extension of the Press buildings.

The Jail Hospital at Ranchi was in progress and materials were collected for constructing a hospital in the Daltonganj Jail. The new sub-jail at Supaul was completed and a start was made with those at Giridih, Chatra and Simdega.

In the Police Department the new barracks for the Reserve Police at Bhagalpur, and for the Reserve Police at Purnea, were completed. The Police Hospital and subsidiary buildings at Motihari were begun. New buildings were constructed for the Police Office at Balasore and the office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Cuttack.

Under the head "Education", the combined scheme of water-supply and drainage for the Reformatory school and Central Jail at Hazaribagh was finished, and materials were collected for the new Ravenshaw College, Cuttack. Other works of importance were the provision of hostels, hostel superintendent's quarters, drill sheds and extension of Zila schools at Patna, Muzaffarpur, Ranchi and Puri.

A European Hospital was built at Ranchi and the construction of the Central Asylum for European insanes at Kankey (Ranchi) was begun. The Vaccine Depôt at Namkum was finished.

At Ranchi a new building was constructed for the office of the Superintending Engineer.

Residences for the following officers, among others, were either completed or in progress during the year :—

District Superintendent of Police, Gaya ; Assistant Superintendents of Police at Kissenganj and Gumla; Settlement Officer, Daltonganj; Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kankey; Executive Engineer, Joint Magistrate and Inspector of Schools, Ranchi; Principal and Professor of Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, and six Subdivisional Officers.

COMMUNICATIONS.

76. Almost all the improvements to the existing roads which will form the through route between Cuttack and Bankipore were completed.

Regrading, metalling and constructing culverts on the length between Bandgaon and Chaibassa were completed, while improvements to the Chaibassa-Jaintgarh road were in hand. The bridges over the Tajna, Deoganj and Karanj rivers were completed, and those over the Lohargajudar, the Chellendari, the Jurisurgaon, the Tebo, and the Nakti rivers were nearly finished. The Kanchi, the Harnai, and the Bamni bridges were in progress.

The two important bridges over the Barakar near Barhi and the Damodar at Ramghur, and that over the Potpoto river on the road to the Lunatic Asylum buildings at Kankey were finished and opened to traffic.

Two reinforced concrete bridges over the Deonud and the Mangaldaha rivers on the Ranchi-Daltonganj Road were undertaken by the Public Works Department for the District Board of Palamau and were in progress.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

77. Protective works along the right bank of the Ganges in front of the Training School and the Temple Medical School at Bankipore were completed. The river bank opposite the Temple at the north-east corner of the Judge's Court was revetted.

Improvements to Sher Shah's tank at Sasaram and the reconstruction of the market in the abandoned cantonment at Cuttack were taken up.

RAILWAYS.

Administration. **78.** The important railway systems in the Province are controlled by the Government of India, Railway Department (Railway Board). Three Light Railways are partially under the control of the Local Government.

Mileages. **79.** 25·77 miles of Railway of all gauges were opened to traffic bringing the total mileage open up to 3,112·52 miles.

80. Surveys of about 68 miles were completed and authority was given by the Railway Board for the survey of several new projects. Surveys.

81. On the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway eight accidents occurred of which one was fatal. Some unknown persons attempted to wreck No. 1 Punjab Mail between Mihijam and Jamtara. Accidents.

CANALS.

82. The Major Irrigation Works are (1) the Sone Canals and (2) the Orissa Canals, both of which were constructed for navigation also. The area irrigated was 808,416 acres showing an increase of 98,883 acres as compared with the preceding year. The increase occurred chiefly on the Sone Canals under *rabi*, and was due to the unfavourable season. Productive works.

The gross revenue from these canals amounted to Rs. 22,73,513, or Rs. 2,01,317 less than that of the year 1913-14. The decrease was due to the small area of *rabi* irrigated from the Sone Canals during 1913-14 of which the water-rates were collected in the year under review.

The total direct and indirect working expenses of the canals were Rs. 13,31,832, leaving as balance a net revenue of Rs. 9,41,681. The interest charges however, amounted to Rs. 18,31,280.

83. There are two protective irrigation works in the Province—the Tribeni and the Dhaka Canals. An area of 76,138 acres of rice was irrigated from the first 59 miles of the Tribeni Canal and an area of 11,330 acres was irrigated from the Dhaka Canal during the year under review, as compared with 41,435 acres and 3,465 acres respectively in the preceding year. The increase was due to insufficient rainfall. Protective works.

EMBANKMENTS AND DRAINAGE.

84. The expenditure on embankments was Rs. 1,65,057 against Rs. 1,62,750 in the preceding year. Of this Rs. 1,49,400 was expended on ordinary repairs and retired lines. No drainage works were constructed under the Bengal Drainage, Sanitary Drainage or Embankment Acts.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

IMPERIAL FINANCE.

85. Imperial receipts amounted to Rs. 1,21,55,000 and the charges to Rs. 46,44,000 as compared with Rs. 1,20,85,000 and Rs. 45,91,000, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in receipts was due mainly to smaller subventions from Imperial to Provincial revenues.

EXCISE.

86. The action taken by the Local Government with reference to the recommendations of the Excise Deputations which waited upon the Secretary of State General.

in 1907 and 1912, was noted in detail in paragraph 84 of the last Report. Practical effect was given during the year to the recommendations of the deputations in the following respects :—

(*a*) Advisory Committees were constituted in all Municipal and other towns with a population of 20,000 or more to consider and advise on the proposals of the Excise Department in connection with the licensing, number and situation of liquor shops.

(*b*) In the Chota Nagpur Division, such Committees were formed, as an experimental measure, for rural areas also. The Deputy Commissioner of the district was the President in every case and the Subdivisional Officers, the Excise Deputy Collectors and certain representatives from the District and Local Associations, the Mining Board of Health and the various Missions were members.

(*c*) To extend the functions of the Advisory Committees, arrangements were sanctioned by Government by which the Committees will meet twice during the year, *viz.*, once before the submission of the Excise Settlement proposals, as at present, and again about six months later, for the discussion of general matters of policy.

A scheme for the reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department received the sanction of the Secretary of State in July 1914. For financial reasons it has not yet been found possible to give full effect to the scheme, but certain minor reforms have been carried out. A Bill to amend and re-enact the Excise law of the Province (Bengal Act V of 1909) which was submitted to the Government of India has since been approved and passed into law.

Excise Administration.

87. The progressive increase in the Excise revenue was maintained, though on a smaller scale than in the previous few years. Of the total increase of Rs. 3⅓ lakhs, over 2¼ lakhs were contributed by country spirit. *Tari* and *ganja* each showed an increase of nearly three-quarters of a lakh, while opium showed a decrease of nearly a quarter of a lakh. It is noteworthy that the increase under country spirit was not accompanied by a rise in consumption. On the contrary the amount of distillery spirit consumed declined by 92,000 gallons L. P. The decrease under opium was due largely to the imposition of restrictions on issues to retail shops in certain districts. The duty on *charas* was raised from Rs. 12 to Rs. 30 a seer. The treasury prices of opium as well as the duty rates of *ganja* have also been substantially increased with effect from the current year. The cocaine habit appears to have received little check in spite of the general preventive measures and the difficulty in present circumstances of obtaining supplies from Europe. A special preventive staff was appointed towards the close of the year in connection with the prevention of cocaine smuggling. Arrangements were also made for securing better co-operation of the railway authorities in the prevention of cocaine smuggling.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

88. The total receipts for 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 3,01,61,000 and the expenditure to Rs. 3,38,92,000 as against Rs. 3,06,39,000 and Rs. 3,15,59,000, respectively, in 1913-14. The diminution in receipts was due chiefly to smaller

subventions from Imperial to Provincial revenues. The expenditure on the new Capital Works at Bankipore accounted for much of the increase on the expenditure side.

LOCAL FINANCE.

89. The total receipts of Local Funds amounted to Rs. 1,13,78,868 and the charges to Rs. 1,16,79,806, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 49,84,274 as against an opening balance of Rs. 52,85,212. Two new funds were opened during the year.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

VITAL STATISTICS.

90. The year was on the whole a healthy one. The birth-rate (42·3) was above the average of the past quinquennium and the death-rate (28·3) was the lowest recorded for fifteen years. The infantile mortality was again the lowest recorded in any province of India. **Vital Statistics.**

91. The death-rate from cholera fell from 2·0 in 1913 to ·9 and was much below the average of the last decade. The only considerable outbreaks were in Cuttack, Puri, Darbhanga, Patna and Gaya. The epidemic in Cuttack chiefly affected the Kendrapara subdivision and appears to have been imported by pilgrims returning from the Rath Jatra at Puri. **Cholera.**

92. The death-rate from small-pox (·2) though slightly higher than in 1913, was below the average of the last ten years. The provisions of the Vaccination Act have been extended to the greater part of the Jharia Mining Settlement and to the Tata Iron and Steel Works at Sakchi. **Small-pox.**

93. The death-rate from plague (1·83 *per mille*) was higher than in 1914 and also than the average of the previous decade. The districts of Saran, Shahabad and Patna suffered most severely. The number of anti-plague inoculations performed was 24,330, which is more than double the number in 1913, the figures for Bhagalpur and Saran being most noteworthy. **Plague.**

94. The registered death-rate from fevers, which probably includes many deaths due to other causes, was 17·7, which is slightly below the average. The highest mortality was, as usual, in Purnea; and the rate in Angul was also high. Two lecturers in malaria were appointed and a third has since been sanctioned **Fevers.**

INLAND EMIGRATION.

95. Important amendments were made in the Assam Labour and Emigration Act of 1901. By the amending Act a Central Labour Bureau was established to supervise the work of local agents; and the system of recruitment by contractors and their subordinates, and by the special class of garden sardars working independently of local agents was abolished. The definition of "emigrate" was altered so as to make the Act applicable to coolies from Native States as soon as they enter a British recruiting district.

The number of emigrants of all classes was 40,322, as compared with 27,996 in 1913-14. The increase was contributed chiefly by the districts of Cuttack Palamau and Hazaribagh, and is to be attributed to the partial failure of crops.

MEDICAL SERVICE.

Staff.

96. The most important event as regards the staff was the reversion to military duty of fourteen out of eighteen officers of the Indian Medical Service, whom the Local Government is required to surrender on mobilization. Three Sub-Assistant Surgeons were also deputed to military duty in India. Six Civil Surgeoncies are now held by Senior Assistant Surgeons and in two cases by local planters' doctors.

The pay of Civil Assistant Surgeons appointed to act as Civil Surgeons has been raised. Proposals were made and sanctioned to allow of the promotion of Sub-Assistant Surgeons to the rank of Assistant Surgeon in special cases.

Institutions.

97. The number of dispensaries shows a net increase of ten over the previous year. Twelve new dispensaries were opened and two, which were no longer required, were closed. The total number is now 349.

The working of floating and itinerant dispensaries has been very successful, and the practice of deputing medical officers of dispensaries to neighbouring *hats*, fairs and markets has also proved beneficial. This latter system is now to be found in eighteen districts, and medical relief was thus afforded to 65,025 patients as compared with 48,795 in the previous year.

A fine new hospital, called the "King Edward VII Memorial Hospital," has been built at Bettiah.

The Secretary of State for India has sanctioned a scheme for the construction of a Lunatic Asylum at Ranchi for Indians. The estimated cost is over 27 lakhs of rupees, which will be divided between the Governments of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa. It will be adjacent to the Lunatic Asylum for Europeans and will be under the same Superintendent. The existing Lunatic Asylum at Patna, which accommodates only 306 patients, is quite inadequate besides being unhealthily situated.

Medical Schools.

98. The number of new admissions at the Temple Medical School at Patna was 42 against 31 in the previous year. The corresponding figures in the Medical School at Cuttack were 67 and 39. The decrease of six in the number of Bihari students at the Patna School is attributed to the fact that there are now better openings in other departments of the public service. The pay and prospects of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons' service must be improved if the right class of men is to be attracted to it and to the Medical schools. This question is engaging the attention of Government. A whole-time Demonstrator of Anatomy has been added to the staff of the Orissa Medical School.

Medical Registration Bill.

99. A Bill was framed, which has since passed into law, based on the Medical Acts in force in England and on similar Acts in Bombay, Bengal and Madras. Its object is to protect the public from imperfectly qualified Medical practitioners, by giving facilities for ascertaining what practitioners possess recognized qualifications. A register of Medical practitioners and their qualifications will be maintained and certain privileges will be conferred on those who are registered.

SANITATION.

100. The outstanding feature of Sanitary administration during the year was the employment of a larger number of trained Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors in Municipalities. A set of model rules has been drawn up for the guidance of Municipalities in determining the duties to be assigned to Health Officers and regarding their appointment, pay, leave and dismissal. A similar set of model rules as regards Sanitary Inspectors is under preparation. **Municipal Sanitation.**

A detailed Sanitary survey of the more important towns is under consideration, and this will ultimately be extended to rural areas in which any particular disease is prevalent. The object is to obtain data from which it will be possible to deduce the causes of the prevalence of certain diseases and so facilitate the task of eradicating them.

101. In view of the numerous and important sanitary works, which have been, or are shortly about to be, undertaken, proposals were submitted for the appointment of two Assistant Sanitary Engineers. The requisite sanction was obtained after the close of the year. **Sanitary Engineering Establishment.**

102. The Local Government was consulted as to the feasibility of collecting accurate vital statistics for a typical area. Such an area was chosen in the Muzaffarpur district and effect will shortly be given to the scheme. **Vital Statistics.**

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

EDUCATION.

103. Owing to the war, the progress made by the Education Department was less than had been anticipated, and various improvements were necessarily postponed. Nevertheless, the record is one of continued progress. The total expenditure on public instruction was nearly 86 lakhs, an increase of six lakhs over the previous year. The expenditure from provincial revenues was nearly 37 lakhs, and grants to local bodies exceeded nine lakhs. The reports of the Committees appointed in the previous year to consider fundamental questions of policy were examined. The most important of them was the report of the Committee appointed to advise on the establishment of a University at Patna. This question is now under the consideration of the Government of India. **General progress.**

There has been a steady increase in the number of institutions and pupils attending them. In British territory, there were 29,644 institution with 836,209 scholars, as compared with 28,547 institutions and 806,966 scholars in the previous year.

104. The post of Additional Inspector in the Patna Division was transferred temporarily to the Orissa Feudatory States and Angul, which were constituted a separate charge. The second Inspectress of Schools joined her post and was placed in charge of the Chota Nagpur and Orissa Divisions. Two new Deputy Inspectorships were sanctioned, one for the supervision of aboriginal education **Controlling Agency.**

in Chota Nagpur and the second for the Feudatory States. The strengthening of the inspecting staff is one of the principal needs of the Province, but action must be postponed till the present financial stringency is abated. A substantial increase was made in the number of posts in the Provincial, Subordinate and Vernacular Teachers' Services.

Arts Colleges.

105. Further improvements were made in the staff and buildings of the Government Colleges, one post being added to the cadre of the Indian Educational Service for a History Professorship at the Ravenshaw College and the new laboratories and hostel of the Patna College being completed. Seventeen additional professorships and lecturerships on a temporary basis were created, pending the receipt of sanction to the permanent strengthening of the staff. The plans for the new buildings at the Ravenshaw College were completed, but their construction will have to await an improvement in the financial situation.

Secondary Education.

106. The scheme for the improvement of Secondary Education has received the sanction of the Secretary of State, and effect will be given to it gradually as funds permit. General approval has been obtained to the provision of a post in the cadre of the Indian Educational Service for the headmastership of one Government High School in each Division. Proposals have been submitted to the Government of India for the creation of posts in the Provincial Service for District Inspectors of Schools and headmasters of Government High Schools. The number of secondary schools for boys rose by eighteen with an increase of 10 per cent. in the number of pupils. The low standard of qualifications possessed by many head masters of Middle English Schools is receiving the attention of Government.

Primary Education.

107. The number of pupils in Primary (including Middle Vernacular) Schools rose from 604,994 to 612,084, while the number of schools increased by 405. All Government Middle Vernacular Schools have now been provided with an adequate staff and steps have been taken to improve the teaching in Primary Schools. It is interesting to note that in two districts of Orissa, the existing schools are on an average only a mile apart, but less than three-fifths of the boys of school-going age are actually attending school. If existing schools were evenly distributed in their respective districts, in five districts only would any boy have to walk much more than a mile to attend school. It is obvious therefore that the high amount of illiteracy is due, not so much to a dearth of schools, as to the failure of large numbers of the population to appreciate the benefits of education, though contributory causes are the incompetence of many of the *gurus* and the unduly large number of classes which they often attempt to teach.

Training Institutions.

108. Sanction was received to the reorganization of the Patna Training College, but owing to the abnormal conditions created by the war, it has not yet been possible to appoint a member of the Indian Educational Service as Vice-Principal; and a Member of the Provincial Educational Service, who has received special training in England, has been appointed to act temporarily. The new buildings of the college have been completed.

Steps are being taken to enable a much larger number of primary teachers to profit by the training institutions.

Female Education.

109. The number of girls' schools has risen from 2,165 to 2,670 and the number of pupils in them from 50,543 to 61,732. The number of girls in boys'

schools has also increased. Co-education is not discouraged, but every effort is being made to provide girls' schools where such are preferred. The Bankipore girls' high school was taken over by Government during the year.

110. The number of Muhammadan pupils continues to grow steadily, the falling off in Primary Schools being more than counter-balanced by a large increase in the special schools which also teach the primary course. **Muhammadan Education**

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

111. The vernacular papers published in the Province are of little importance and have small influence outside the districts or towns in which they are published. The editors of two Urdu papers were warned and in each case the warning was sufficient to prevent a repetition of the offence. One Hindi newspaper, which had frequently published objectionable articles, ceased publication when security was demanded after the death of the proprietor. Of the English papers, the *Beharee* continued to be the leading newspaper of the Province though the *Express* and the *Bihar Standard* competed closely with it. The *Star of Utkal* was frequently objectionable in tone and the editor was warned on more than one occasion. **Newspapers.**

The tone of the press was on the whole moderate and loyal. The topic of greatest interest was of course the European war ; and articles on the loyalty of India and the certainty of ultimate victory for the Allies appeared in all newspapers. General satisfaction and enthusiasm were expressed at the decision to employ Indian troops in France. The press did good service in warning readers against unfounded war rumours.

In their attitude towards the entry of Turkey into the war, all local newspapers were thoroughly sound, and strong disapproval was expressed of any attempt to misrepresent the facts.

PART II.

THE REPORT.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY—

	Page	Para.
PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.		
HISTORICAL SUMMARY		
FORM OF ADMINISTRATION	*See* pages 1-129 of the Report for 1911-12.	
CHARACTER OF THE LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.		
CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY; DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS (1911), TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.		
CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION—		
Executive Council	1	1
Indian Civil Service	1	2(1)
Provincial Executive Service	1	2(2)
Subordinate Civil Service	2	2(3)
Training of Officers	2	3
RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS—		
Political States of Chota Nagpur—		
Administration	2	4
Revenue	2	5
Material condition of the people ...	2	6
Administration of Justice	2	7
Jails	2	8
Forests	3	9
TRIBUTARY AND FEUDATORY STATES OF ORISSA—		
Administration of Land Revenue ...	3	10
Settlement	3	11
Crime	3	12
Administration of Justice	3	13
Jails	3	14
Forests	4	15

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
TRIBUTARY AND FEUDATORY STATES OF ORISSA—*concluded.*		
Excise	4	16
Public Works	4	17
Material condition of the people ...	4	18
Public Health	4	19
Education	4	20
CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE—		
Patna Division	4	21
Tirhut Division	4	22
Bhagalpur Division	5	23
Orissa Division	5	24
Chota Nagpur Division	5	25

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—

REALISATION OF THE REVENUE—		
Collection of Land Revenue	7	26
Operations of the Sale Law ...	7	27
Redemption of Land Revenue ...	7	28
Miscellaneous Revenue	7	29
Sale of Government Estates	8	30
Payment of Revenue and Rent by money orders	8	31
Roads and Public Works Cesses ...	8	32
Certificate Procedure	8	33
Land Registration	8	34
Partition	9	35
SURVEYS—		
Outturn of the year	9	36
Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office ...	9	37
LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENTS—		
General	9	38

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND—*concluded.*

LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENTS—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Permanently-settled Estates, Bihar / Gaya ...	9	39
Shahabad	9	40
Chota Nagpur / Hazaribagh	9	41
Palamau	10	42
Revision Settlement, Champaran ...	10	43
Singhbhum-Kolhan Government Estate ...	10	44
Maintenance of Records in Orissa and Sambalpur.	10	45
Maintenance of boundary marks ...	10	46

GOVERNMENT ESTATES—

Number and management of Government Estates	11	47
Improvements	11	48
Education	11	49
Roads and Communications	11	50
Condition of raiyats	11	51

WARDS, ATTACHED, TRUST AND ENCUMBERED ESTATES—

Number of estates under management ...	11	52
Payment of Government demands ...	11	53
Rent and Cesses due to superior landlords	11	54
Collection of rent and cesses due to estates	12	55
Balances of rent and cesses due to estates	12	56
Management charges	12	57
Improvements	12	58
Education of Wards	12	59

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES—

Tenancy Acts	12	60
Payment of rent	12	61
Relations between landlords and tenants ...	13	62

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY	Pages 144-148 of the Report for 1911-12.	
Legislative Council	14	63

COURSE OF LEGISLATION—

Bills passed. The Jharia Water-Supply Act, the Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act	14	64

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.—*continued.*

COURSE OF LEGISLATION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Bills introduced	14	65

POLICE—

Force	14	66
Discipline	14	67
Rural Police	15	68
Crime	15	69
Security cases	16	70
Remands	16	71

MORTALITY CAUSED BY WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES—

Wild animals	16	72
Snakes	16	73
Cattle killed by wild animals ...	16	74
Destruction of wild animals	16	75

CRIMINAL JUSTICE—

Judicial staff	16	76
Offences reported	16	77
False cases	17	78
True cases	17	79

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION—

I.—Magistrates' Courts—

Total cases for trials	17	80
Results of trials	18	81
Punishments	18	82
Miscellaneous Proceedings under the Code of Criminal Procedure ...	19	83
Witnesses	19	84

II.—Courts of Session—

Commitments, etc.	20	85
Results of trials...	20	86
Punishments	20	87
Jury trials	21	88
Trials by assessors	21	89
Duration of cases	21	90
Witnesses	21	91

APPELLATE JURISDICTION—

I.—High Court—

Appeals	21	92

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE—*continued.*		
Result of appeals	21	93
Appeals against acquittals	22	94
II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Sessions Courts	22	95
Magistrates' Courts	22	96
SUPERINTENDENCE, REFERENCE AND REVISION—		
I.—High Court—		
References under section 307, Code of Criminal Procedure ...	22	97
References under section 374, Code of Criminal Procedure ...	23	98
References under section 341, Code of Criminal Procedure ...	23	99
Revision	23	100
Applications for transfer	23	101
II.—Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Sessions Courts	23	102
Magistrates' Courts	24	103
III.—General—		
Trials of European British subjects ...	24	104
Results of criminal work	24	105
Receipts and charges	24	106
Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts—		
Santal Parganas and Angul	24	107
JAILS—		
General condition of Prisoners ...	24	108
Juvenile and female offenders ...	25	109
Jail Industries	25	110
Subordinate Jail establishment ...	25	111
Subsistence Allowance of Prisoners on release from Jails	25	112
Forms Press	25	113
Administration	25	114
CIVIL JUSTICE—		
Judicial staff	25	115
Original Jurisdiction—		
Original suits instituted	26	116
Local distribution	26	117

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
CIVIL JUSTICE—*concluded.*		
Nature of suits instituted	26	118
Number of suits disposed of	27	119
Results of suits	27	120
Applications for re-trial	27	121
Suits decided by Munsifs	27	122
Suits decided by Subordinate Judges ...	27	123
Disposals by Small Cause Courts ...	28	124
Average duration of suits	28	125
Pending suits	28	126
Execution Proceedings	28	127
Miscellaneous cases	29	128
APPELLATE JURISDICTION—		
I.—Appeals in the High Court—		
Appeals from Subordinate Courts ...	29	129
Results of appeals	29	130
II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court—		
Appeals instituted	30	131
Appeals disposed of	30	132
Appeals pending	30	133
Results of appeals	30	134
Miscellaneous appeals	30	135
General	30	136
Inspections	30	137
Receipts and charges	30	138
CIVIL JUSTICE IN SCHEDULED DISTRICTS—		
Santal Parganas and Angul	31	139
REGISTRATION—		
Staff	31	140
Offices	31	141
Statistics	32	142
REGISTRATION IN VARIOUS DIVISIONS—		
Patna Division	32	143
Tirhut Division	32	144
Bhagalpur Division	32	145
Orissa Division	32	146
Chota Nagpur Division	33	147

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*continued.*

REGISTRATION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913	33	148
Working of Act XXI of 1860 ...	34	149
Working of Acts V and VI of 1912 ...	34	150
Working of the Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872	34	151
Working of the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis' Act ...	34	152
MUNICIPALITIES—		
Number	34	153
Elections	34	154
Number of meetings	35	155
Number of rate-payers	35	156
Assessment and taxation	35	157
Revision of assessment	35	158
Collections	35	159
Income and expenditure	36	160
Closing balances	37	161
INCOME—		
Tax on houses and lands	37	162
Tolls on roads and ferries	37	163
Water-rate	37	164
Conservancy including scavenging and latrine rates	37	165
Grants from Provincial and Local Funds and contributions from private individuals	37	166
EXPENDITURE—		
Office and Collection Establishment ...	37	167
Lighting	38	168
Water-supply	38	169
Drainage	38	170
Conservancy including road-cleaning, road-watering and latrines ...	39	171
Hospitals and Dispensaries... ...	40	172
Plague and other epidemic disease charges	40	173
Public works	40	174
Public Instruction	41	175
Loans	41	176
Audit of accounts and embezzlements ...	41	177

CHAPTER III—PROTECTION—*continued.*

MUNICIPALITIES—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Amendment of Municipal Act ...	42	178
THE PURI LODGING HOUSE ACT—		
Extent of application	42	179
Number of licensed Lodging Houses and Lodgers	42	180
Offences under the Act	42	181
Income	42	182
Expenditure	42	183
Health and Sanitation	42	184
DISTRICT BOARDS—		
Number of District and Local Boards and of Union Committees... ...	43	185
District Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members ...	43	186
Local Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members ...	43	187
Union Committees	43	188
Financial Results	43	189
INCOME—		
Land Revenue	45	190
Provincial Rates	45	191
Pounds	45	192
Ferries	45	193
Contributions	45	194
Loans	45	195
EXPENDITURE—		
Administration	45	196
Education	45	197
Special Schools	46	198
Medical	46	199
Sanitation	46	200
Veterinary charges	47	201
Pension	47	202
Famine Relief	47	203
Railways and Tramways	47	204
Civil works	47	205
Railway feeder roads	47	206
Water-supply and water-works ...	48	207

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION—*concluded.*

DISTRICT BOARDS—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Drainage	48	208
Arboriculture	48	209
Closing balance	48	210
VOLUNTEERING—	48	211
MARINE—		
The Ports of Orissa—		
Finance	49	212
Trade	49	213
Arrivals and departures of vessels ...	49	214
Inspections	49	215
Health of the Ports	49	216
STEAM BOILER COMMISSION—		
Administration of the Act	49	217
Inspection of boilers	49	218

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—

AGRICULTURE—		
Organisation	50	219
Agricultural Stations	50	220
Agricultural Education ...	50	221
Research and experiments ...	51	222
Fisheries	51	223
Agricultural Associations, fairs and shows	51	224
Agricultural Engineering and well-boring	51	225
Publication of Agricultural information	52	226
Arboriculture	52	227
Co-operative Dairying ...	52	228
VETERINARY DEPARTMENT—		
Veterinary instruction ...	52	229
Civil Veterinary Department ...	52	230
Cattle diseases	53	231
Dispensaries	53	232
Breeding operations	53	233
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—		
General Progress	53	234
Central Banks	55	235

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Agricultural Societies	55	236
Non-Agricultural Societies ...	55	237
Other forms of co-operation ...	56	238
Indirect effects	56	239
WEATHER AND CROPS—		
Character of the Season ...	56	240
Bhadoi or Autumn Crops ...	57	241
Jute	57	242
Indigo	58	243
Aghani Crops—winter rice ...	58	244
Sugarcane	58	245
Rabi Crops	58	246
Cotton	59	247
FORESTS—		
Changes in the Administration ...	59	248
Changes in area	59	249
Communications and buildings ...	60	250
Forest offences	60	251
Protection from fire	60	252
Protection from cattle and against injuries from natural causes	60	253
Financial results	60	254
MANUFACTURES AND MINES—		
Jute	60	255
Indigo	60	256
Tea	60	257
Sugar	61	258
Coal	61	259
Iron	61	260
Copper ore	61	261
Mica	61	262
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES IN EACH DIVISION—		
Patna Division	61	263
Tirhut Division	61	264
Bhagalpur Division	62	265

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES IN EACH DIVISION.—*concluded.*		
Orissa Division	62	266
Chota Nagpur Division ...	62	267
WORKING OF THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT—		
Number of factories and system of work	62	268
Inspections	62	269
General health of operatives ...	62	270
Sanitary arrangements and quarters for operatives	62	271
Wages and general condition of operatives	63	272
Employment of women and children ...	63	273
Fencing of machinery	63	274
Accidents	63	275
Prosecutions, fires and strikes ...	63	276
TRADE—		
I.—FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE—		
Foreign Trade	63	277
Articles exported	63	278
II.—FRONTIER TRADE—		
Nepal	64	279
Imports	64	280
Exports	64	281
III.—COASTING TRADE—		
Coasting trade	65	282
IV.—TRADE BY RAILWAY AND RIVER—		
Division and value of trade ...	65	283
Imports	66	284
Exports	66	285
Internal Trade	66	286
PUBLIC WORKS—		
Establishment—		
Administrative charges	66	287
Revenue staff	67	288
Lower Subordinates	67	289
Upper Subordinates	67	290
Ministerial Establishment of Circles and Divisions	67	291
Departmental examinations... ...	67	292

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
BUILDINGS—		
Imperial Works—		
Military works	67	293
Civil Works. Post and Telegraph Offices	67	294
Church	68	295
Customs	68	296
Miscellaneous	68	297
PROVINCIAL WORKS—		
Court Buildings	68	298
Circuit Houses	69	299
Excise Buildings	69	300
Jails	69	301
Police	69	302
Education	70	303
Medical	71	304
Registration	71	305
Monuments and Antiquities ...	72	306
Burial-grounds	72	307
Residences for Lieutenant-Governor and Government officials	72	308
Government buildings, Ranchi ...	72	309
Capital Works, Patna	73	310
Agricultural Buildings	73	311
Public Works Department Buildings ...	73	312
Miscellaneous	74	313
Contribution	74	314
COMMUNICATIONS	74	315
Miscellaneous Public Improvements—		
Protective works	76	316
Electric Supply	76	317
Water Supply	76	318
Sanitary Improvements	76	319
RAILWAYS—		
Administration	76	320
Additions to mileage	76	321
Lines sanctioned and under construction	77	322
Surveys completed	77	323

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*continued.*

	Page	Para.
RAILWAYS—*concluded.*		
Survey sanctioned	78	324
Accidents	78	325
Miscellaneous important matters ...	79	326
CANALS—IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION—		
Capital and Revenue Accounts ...	79	327
Classification of Irrigation and Navigation Works	80	328
ORISSA CIRCLE—		
Major Irrigation Works (Productive)—		
Orissa Canals—		
Capital Account...	81	329
Works in progress	81	330
Length of distributaries	81	331
Rainfall	81	332
Irrigation	82	333
Navigation receipts	82	334
Financial results	82	335
Closure of canals	82	336
Floods	82	337
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION—		
Orissa Coast Canal	82	338
Floods	83	339
SONE CIRCLE—		
Major Irrigation Works (Productive)—		
Sone Canals—		
Capital account	83	340
Rainfall	83	341
Irrigation	83	342
Navigation receipts	84	343
Financial results	84	344
Floods	84	345
Flushing operation	84	346
Protective Irrigation Works ...	84	347
GANDAK CIRCLE—		
Protective Irrigation Works—		
Tribeni and Dhaka Canals	84	348

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
TRIBENI CANAL—		
Canal Works	84	349
Distributaries	85	350
Opening of Canal	85	351
Rainfall	85	352
Irrigation	85	353
Water-rates	85	354
DHAKA CANAL—		
Capital Account	85	355
Financial results	86	356
Rainfall	86	357
Irrigation	86	358
Water-rates	86	359
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION—		
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept—		
Saran Canals	86	360
Financial	86	361
WORKS FOR WHICH NEITHER CAPITAL NOR REVENUE ACCOUNTS ARE KEPT—		
Teur (Madhuban) Canal	86	362
Area irrigated	86	363
EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE—		
Classification of Embankments ...	87	364
Expenditure	87	365
Length of Embankments	87	366
Floods	87	367
Breaches	87	368
Surveys and Investigations... ...	87	369
Original Works	88	370
Repairs	88	371
Drainage	88	372
CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.		
IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE—		
Imperial Receipts and Expenditure ...	89	373
SOURCES OF REVENUE OTHER THAN LAND—		
Customs—		
Customs Revenue	91	374

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE —*continued.*

	Page	Para.
CUSTOMS—*concluded.*		
Breach of Customs Laws	91	375
Indian Merchandise Marks Act ...	91	376
SALT—		
Imports	92	377
Consumption and prices	92	378
Preventive measures	92	379
Receipts and charges	92	380
Trade in Saltpetre	93	381
EXCISE—		
Administrative changes	93	382
Local Advisory Committees ...	93	383
Result of settlements	93	384
Revenue	94	385
Country Spirit	94	386
Revision of rates of duty	94	387
Maximum and minimum prices ...	94	388
Tari	94	389
Pachwai	94	390
Foreign liquors	94	391
Ganja	95	392
Bhang	95	393
Charas	95	394
Opium	95	395
Cocaine and its congeners ...	95	396
Excise offences	95	397
STAMPS—		
Revenue	96	398
Judicial Stamps	96	399
Non-Judicial Stamps	96	400
Sale of Stamps	96	401
Deficit Duty	96	402
Prosecutions under the Stamp Act ...	96	403
Working of Section 19H of the Court-Fees Act.	96	404
INCOME-TAX—		
Financial results	97	405

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE —*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
INCOME-TAX—*concluded.*		
Collections	97	406
Assessment	97	407
PROVINCIAL FINANCE—		
Receipts and Expenditure ...	98	408
Variations	101	409
LOCAL FINANCE—		
Balance	102	410
ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS CESSES—		
Rate at which levied	103	411
Demands and Realisation	103	412
Working of the Certificate Procedure ...	103	413
Valuations and Re-valuations ...	103	414
CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—		
VITAL STATISTICS—		
Climatic conditions	105	415
Vital Statistics	105	416
Registration of Vital Statistics ...	105	417
Cholera	105	418
Small-pox	106	419
Fevers	106	420
Plague	106	421
Dysentery and Diarrhœa	106	422
Respiratory diseases	106	423
INLAND EMIGRATION—		
Administrative measures	106	424
Number of emigrants and recruiting agencies.	107	425
Inspection of Depôts	108	426
Criminal cases	108	427
Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	108	428
MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS—		
Number of Dispensaries	108	429
Number of patients treated ...	108	430
Diseases treated	109	431
Finance	109	432
Leper Asylums...	109	433

CHAPTER VI—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
LUNATIC ASYLUMS—		
Population, Admission and Discharge ...	109	434
Sickness and Mortality	110	435
Accommodation	110	436
Criminal Lunatics	110	437
Finance	110	438
Central Asylums	110	439
General	110	440
SANITATION—		
Sanitary Improvements	110	441
Staff	111	442
Sanitary Board	111	443
Sanitary Laboratory	111	444
VACCINATION—		
Small-pox and Vaccination ...	111	445
POISONS ACT—		
The Working of the Poisons Act ...	111	446

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION—

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

(*See pages* 220-225 of the Report for 1911-1912.)

EDUCATION—

General Statistics	112	447
Arts Colleges	112	448

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION—*concluded.*

EDUCATION—*concluded.*

	Page	Para.
Secondary Education	113	449
Primary Education	114	450
The Training of Teachers	114	451
Law Colleges, Medical, Engineering, Surveying and Commercial Schools ...	115	452
Industrial and Technical Schools ...	115	453
The Education of Indian girls and women	115	454
European Schools	116	455
Muhammadan Education	116	456
The Education of Special Classes, Sanskrit Tols, and the Reformatory School ...	116	457
Hostels, Physical Training, and Moral Instruction	117	458
Conferences and Committees ...	117	459
LITERATURE AND THE PRESS—		
Publications registered	117	460
Newspapers	118	461

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES IN BIHAR AND ORISSA, *vide* PAGE 229 OF THE REPORT FOR 1911-1912.

Arts and Sciences ... ... *Nil.*

CHAPTER VIII—ARCHÆOLOGY—

ARCHÆOLOGY—

Excavation	119	462
Conservation	119	463

Where at the head of any Section of the Report reference is made to a Departmental Annual Report the figures given are figures for the year covered by that Report. Elsewhere the figures quoted are those of the financial year, from 1st April 1914 to 31st March 1915.

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1914-1915.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

For—

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY.

DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS, TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 1-129.

Changes in the Administration.

Executive Council.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., the Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., and the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameswar Singh, G.C.I.E., of Darbhanga, continued to hold office as members of the Executive Council. In April 1914, the Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait proceeded on leave on medical certificate, but was recalled to duty before the expiry of his leave and had to return in September. The temporary vacancy on the Council was filled by Mr. H. LeMesurier, C.S.I., C.I.E., and the Hon'ble Sir Edward Levinge, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., was appointed temporarily to be Vice-President of the Council.

Indian Civil Service.

2. (1) Orders were received from the Secretary of State for India sanctioning the addition of three posts of Magistrate and Collector to the cadre of the Indian Civil Service to provide for the posts of (*a*) City Magistrate and Additional District Magistrate of Patna, (*b*) Deputy Commissioner of Angul, and (*c*) a third Settlement Officer. Two feeder appointments of Assistant Magistrate were also sanctioned and one of the posts of Magistrate and Collector was declared to be tenable by a member of the Provincial Civil Service. The strength of the Indian Civil Service was fixed at 117, being the total strength required to fill 60 superior and 23 inferior posts, and the number of superior listed posts was fixed at six. Only one post of Magistrate and Collector, *viz.*, that sanctioned for the Deputy Commissioner of Angul, was created with effect from the 6th June 1915, the date on which the Secretary of State's orders were received by the Government of India and it was decided to give full effect to the above orders from the 1st April 1916, after making definite budget provisions for the additional posts.

Provincial Executive Service.

(2) Two appointments were abolished in the cadre of the Provincial Executive Service in lieu of the two posts of Magistrate and Collector sanctioned for the (*a*) City Magistrate and Additional District Magistrate at Patna, and (*b*) Deputy Commissioner of Angul, and the local allowance of Rs. 200 a month of the Provincial Civil Service officer holding the post of Deputy Commissioner of Angul was discontinued. The Government of India sanctioned the addition

of two appointments to the cadre of the Provincial Executive Service in connection with the opening of the Chatra subdivision in the Hazaribagh district and the Simdega subdivision in the Ranchi district.

Subordinate Civil Service.

(3) The Government of India sanctioned the addition of three appointments to the cadre of the Subordinate Civil Service in connection with the opening of the two new subdivisions mentioned above. They also sanctioned the addition of thirteen appointments to the cadre of this service to provide officers for the supervision of the assessment and collection of the Chaukidari tax in the Chota Nagpur Division. Five of these appointments have been given effect to and it has been decided to give effect to the remaining appointments gradually. One appointment was created by the Local Government and added to the cadre of this service to provide an Auditor on Co-operative Societies.

Training of officers.

3. Pending the issue of orders on the Report of the Royal Commission of the Public Services, the Secretary of State sanctioned a provisional scheme for the training in Civil Judicial work of those members of the Indian Civil Service who might wish eventually to choose the Judicial branch. The Government of India directed that steps be taken to employ continuously in Civil Judicial work for about eighteen months as many selected members of the Indian Civil Service of not less than five years' service as might be required and as could conveniently be spared. One officer was placed on training for a part of the year in accordance with this scheme.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

POLITICAL STATES OF CHOTA NAGPUR.

[Report on these States for 1914-15 by the Commissioner of Chota Nagpur.]

[Two States.—(1) Seraikela: area, 449 square miles; Population, 109,794; income, Rs. 1,18,239; Chief, Raja Bahadur Udit Narayan Singh Deo, aged 66. (2) Kharsawan: area, 153 square miles; population, 38,852; income, Rs. 61,874; Chief, Thakur Sriram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 24.]

Administration.

4. The States were administered by their respective Chiefs. In Seraikela Jubaraj Aditya Pratap Singh Deo, grandson of the Chief and heir-apparent to the *gadi*, took a keen interest in the efficiency of its administration and its material improvements.

Revenue.

5. The percentage of collections in Seraikela fell from 66·08 to 56·36 owing to the failure of crops in certain parts of the State. In Kharsawan it rose from 93·5 to 94·85. The excise revenue shows an increase in both the States, the increase in Seraikela being due to collection of arrears and in Kharsawan to high bidding at the auction sales.

Material condition of the people.

6. The year cannot be said to have been a prosperous one in Seraikela from an agricultural point of view, the outturn of paddy being about 60 per cent. The year on the whole was a prosperous one in Kharsawan where the outturn of paddy was 80 per cent., the same as in the previous year. Public health was generally good in both the States. There was no outbreak of any epidemic disease in Kharsawan, but in some villages of Seraikela there were a few cases of small-pox. Voluntary emigration to the labour districts is still allowed in the two States.

Administration of justice.

7. The number of persons brought to trial in the States shows an increase of 120 in Seraikela and 51 in Kharsawan over the figures of the previous year. The average duration of civil, revenue and execution cases in Seraikela was 60, 58 and 54 days against 61, 59 and 55 days, respectively. In Kharsawan it was 54, 128 and 54 days against 38, 40 and 40 days, respectively, the falling off in the standard being due to a great extent to the late Dewan of the State taking leave several times and ultimately resigning.

Jails.

8. The population of the Seraikela jail increased and that of the Kharsawan jail decreased. Effect is being given to the scheme for the separation of the jail and thana in Kharsawan which at present form practically one institution.

9. The forest revenue of both the States shows further improvement, being Rs. 10,456 against Rs. 9,293 in Seraikela and Rs. 6,180 against Rs. 4,739 in Kharsawan. The demarcation of fuel reserves in the latter is nearly completed. **Forests.**

Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa.

[Report on the States for 1914-15 by the Commissioner of Orissa.]

[Number of States, 24; total area, 28,046 square miles; population, 37,96,563 ; gross revenue, Rs. 59,69,989.]

10. The States of Baud, Bonai, Daspalla, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Narsinghpur, Nayagarh, Nilgiri, Pal-Lahera and Rairakhol continued under the administration of Government. The remaining thirteen States, *viz.*, Athgarh, Athmallik, Bamra, Baramba, Dhenkanal, Gangpur, Hindol, Khandpara, Patna, Ranpur, Sonpur, Talcher and Tigiria, were administered by their respective Chiefs. An improvement in the collection of land revenue over that of last year was shown by ten of the States, while in nine of them the collection was cent. per cent. or very little below. In Athgarh, Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj, Nilgiri and Talcher the collection fell slightly owing to poor crops. **Administration of land revenue.**

11. Settlement operations continued in Athmallik, Dhenkanal, Khandpara, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Narsinghpur, Nayagarh, Pal-Lahera, Patna and Sonpur. In Daspalla the commencement of the operations had to be postponed owing to local disturbances, an account of which has been given in Part I. In Athmallik and Keonjhar the Settlement operations are nearing completion. **Settlement.**

12. The total number of cases reported to the police shows an increase of 1,004 cases over the figures of the previous year, mostly in petty thefts and small burglaries in those areas in which the crops were poor. Out of the twenty-four States there was an increase of crime in seventeen and a decrease in seven. The increase was marked in Mayurbhanj due to poor crops in parts of the State and a noticeable decrease occurred in Keonjhar. The police administration of the States has in most cases improved of late years. The people have gained confidence in the police and the reporting of crime is better than hitherto. The States continued to make full use of the privilege of sending candidates to the Police Training College at Hazaribagh, where altogether 57 candidates have been trained already and eleven are undergoing training. This is a strong testimony to the determination of the Chiefs to improve the efficiency of their State Police and to the popularity of the concession placed at their disposal by Government. A few candidates were also sent to the central Criminal Bureau at Bankipore to be trained as experts in verifying finger impressions. The gradual training of the officers of the States is rendering the extension of the system of taking finger impression portraits of criminals throughout the States more feasible every year. **Crime.**

13. The total number of cases brought to trial decreased by 229. The decrease was shared by ten States, the remaining fourteen States show an increase. The average duration of police and complaint cases from all the courts of the States taken together was 5·25 days and 12·29 days against 6·13 days, and 14·82 days, respectively, in the previous year. There has thus been a very fair improvement in the average duration of both classes of cases and the result is creditable and speaks well for the promptitude of disposal of judicial business in the States. The total number of civil suits disposed of during the year decreased by 362. The average duration of contested suits was 53·67 days against 56·09 days and of uncontested suits 25·48 days against 27·43 days. The improvement in the average duration of both classes of suits is satisfactory. **Administration of justice.**

14. The average daily population of the jails of the States increased from 59·86 to 64·19 due to increase of petty thefts in twelve of the States in which the crops were poor. In two States the average was practically the same as that of last year and in the remaining ten States it decreased. The jail administration is engaging the serious attention of the State authorities and jail-made articles are gradually gaining in popularity. In all the jails there is now a regular industrial side. Excellent jail buildings have recently been constructed **Jails.**

in several of the States and have been fully equipped in accordance with modern requirements. New jails are under construction in some States and in others the old jails are being remodelled and improved.

Forests. **15.** Owing to the slackness of the timber market on account of the European war the total income from forests decreased slightly during the year and it is expected that the large timber companies working in the States will further restrict their operations till they can dispose of their stocks. The result will be a further fall in the forest revenue of the States. The progress made last year in the management of the forests under the charge of the Agency Forest Officer was fully maintained during the year under review.

Excise. **16.** The total revenue from excise rose from Rs. 6,10,296 to Rs. 6,97,033. All the twenty-four States, except Nilgiri where poor crops adversely affected this source of income, shared the increase. The Cooch Bihar system of supply of *ganja* to the States on the Cuttack side and the supply of Rajshahi *ganja* to the Sambalpur States continued to work well.

Public Works. **17.** The total expenditure on public works during the year shows an increase of Rs. 2,37,079 over that of the last year. The steady annual increase of expenditure on public works is a healthy feature of State administration. The Chiefs have now fully realised the great importance of the improvement of communications and buildings.

Material condition of the people. **18.** The harvests during the year were not so satisfactory as in the previous year, and were poor in some parts. Insect-pests did considerable damage to the crops. The average outturn was about 11 annas. In two States the outturn was 16 annas, in three 14, in two 13, in six 12, in two 11 and in six 10. The crops of the previous year were good and ample supplies of food-grains were available.

Public health. **19.** Public health was good ; there was no outbreak of epidemics on any scale and there was no case of plague. During the last five years several new dispensaries have been opened and much has been done to obtain better qualified medical practitioners in charge. The accommodation of existing dispensaries has been improved and the dispensaries have generally been better equipped. Vaccination operations in the States did not make such satisfactory progress as in previous years.

Education. **20.** The total number of schools in the States increased from 2,111 to 2,129 and of pupils from 79,067 to 82,548. The States are yearly paying more attention to the facilities for female education which is growing in popularity, the increase during the last six years of girls attending schools being 49 per cent. Due attention is also being paid to the education of low-caste children.

Condition of the people.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration, 1914-15.]

Patna Division. **21.** The recuperation of the tracts that had suffered from the unprecedented floods of 1913 was surprisingly rapid, and the demand for labour in connection with the building of the new Capital at Bankipore and the consequent high rates of wages conduced to the prosperity of the poorer non-agriculturists. The health of the people was generally good. In Gaya the condition of the people was less satisfactory owing to partial failure of the harvests and agricultural loans were advanced in the tracts most affected. In Shahabad the area irrigated by the Sone Canal gave good paddy and *rabi* crops but certain unirrigated tracts suffered through absence of rain between September and January. The cultivators, however, were recouped to some extent by the high prices prevailing. The labouring classes were not much affected and wages did not fall.

Tirhut Division. **22.** Throughout the year weather conditions were not favourable except in Champaran and the failure of seasonable rain affected the outturn of the three principal crops *bhadoi*, winter rice and *rabi*. The crops were, however, excellent in the irrigated area in Champaran. High prices compensated the

agriculturists who form the bulk of the population, and the labouring classes benefited by an increase of wages in proportion to the rise in the prices of food-grains. The general health of the people was on the whole satisfactory, plague being less virulent than in the previous year. There was very little emigration to foreign countries.

23. In this Division, too, scanty and uneven rainfall affected the outturn of the three principal crops to a considerable extent and the material condition of the poorer raiyats and labourers was in consequence not good. In Purnea the price obtained for jute, which is the chief product of the district, was on the average a quarter of that obtained in the previous year. The general health of the people was on the whole good, though plague again appeared in Monghyr and Bhagalpur. In Purnea there was less malaria than usual owing, it is supposed, to the dryness of the year. **Bhagalpur Division.**

The grain *golas* in the Santal Parganas are said to have been of immense benefit to the people and five more *golas* were started in the Godda, Pakaur and Rajmahal subdivisions during the year.

24. The winter rice throughout the Division, and particularly in Angul and Balasore, suffered from failure of rain after September and also by the visitation of an insect-pest and the outturn of this staple food crop was in consequence below the normal. The *rabi* crops also suffered severely for want of rain. The weather was favourable to jute which is extensively grown in the Kendrapara subdivision of Cuttack, but the price having fallen owing to the war the demand was small. The material condition of the people was most affected in Balasore where they had to contend with two successive lean years. In Angul a free and timely distribution of *taccavi* loans and the starting of improvement works in the early part of the current year should appreciably relieve the situation. Public health during the year was not very good and repeated outbreaks of rinderpest caused considerable loss of cattle in Cuttack, Puri and Angul. There appears to be no marked variation in the production and distribution of agricultural produce and in the wages and earnings of the poorer artisans except in the towns and their suburbs, where wages increased owing to the high prices of food-grains; while in the interior labourers were usually paid in kind. In the towns the better classes show a tendency towards greater luxury, but no change is apparent in the standard of living of the people in general. **Orissa Division.**

25. Agricultural conditions were on the whole less satisfactory than in the previous year, the outturn of crops being generally poor for want of seasonable rains. The health of the people was generally satisfactory throughout the Division. The partial failure of the crops in the Hazaribagh district together with the cessation of work in the mica mines and lac factories caused an increase in the annual emigration for work in the tea gardens, coal-mines, railways, mills and factories, etc. In Ranchi dry cultivation was fairly successful but wet cultivation suffered a little for want of timely rain and the outturn of the crops was on the whole below the average. In the Palamau district want of seasonable rain seriously affected both the *bhadoi* and winter crops and also prejudiced the *rabi* crops. In Manbhum the people were well off on the whole, though failure of the late rains damaged the winter rice. Plenty of work was, however, obtainable on good wages in the coal fields and the lac factories (till the outbreak of the war), on Railway construction work and several important building projects at Purulia and Dhanbad. In Singhbhum the general condition of the people was very fair—though worse than in the previous year—except in the Kolhan where the paddy crop was seriously affected by short and untimely rainfall. The condition of the labouring classes continued to be satisfactory. The daily average number of employés at the Tata Iron and Steel Works at Sakchi, the copper mines at Rakha Hills and the Iron Works at Duia worked by the Cape Copper Company and Bengal Iron and Steel Company, Limited, respectively, was 11,371 during the year. **Chota Nagpur Division.**

In Ranchi Co-operative Societies and Temperance Unions started by the Missions are improving the standard of thrift among Christian aborigines throughout the district, while in the vicinity of the Ranchi town itself the

Ranchi Union and the Munda-Uraon Sikha-Sabha are both doing good work in the same direction.

The Division as a whole is making gradual progress in economic development for which the extension of Railways and mining operations is chiefly responsible.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realisation of the Revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914-15]

Collection of Land Revenue.

26. The total number of estates paying land revenue was 105,105 against 104,187 in the previous financial year, nearly three-fourths of the increase being due, as usual, to partitions. The current demand amounted to Rs. 1,50,90,485 which shows an increase of Rs. 1,14,933 caused mainly by re-settlements and the revision of rents in certain Government Estates. In spite of the fact that the percentages of total collections on total demand and of current collections on current demand were less than those of the previous year by nearly one per cent., the arrear balance at the end of the year was the lowest in the quinquennium. The percentage of total collections of the current demand was 101·14 or ·96 higher than that in the previous year. Of the total sum of Rs. 16,447 remitted during the year against Rs. 15,962 in the previous year, Rs. 1,087 represents remissions of grace, Rs. 11,936 remissions of right and Rs. 3,425 nominal remissions. Most of the amounts remitted by grace as well as those representing nominal remissions, relate to estates held direct by Government, the grounds of remissions being mainly death, poverty of tenants, erroneous settlement, mistakes in accounts and non-settlement of relinquished holdings.

The Local Government decided in consultation with the Government of the United Provinces that no more remissions should be granted to the diluviated estates transferred from the district of Ballia in the United Provinces to the district of Shahabad—a fact which accounts for nearly one-sixteenth of the total arrear balance during the year.

Operations of the Sale Law.

27. The number of defaults in the payment of land revenue decreased by nearly 91 per cent., the decrease being shared by all the Divisions. As in the previous year, no sales under Act IX of 1859 were held in the Chota Nagpur Division. Non-payment of land revenue in 8,458 estates and separate accounts which consequently became liable to sale resulted in the actual sale of 338 estates or about 4 per cent. against 368 or 3·95 per cent. in the previous year. Of the total number of estates sold only twelve were bought on behalf of Government and the amount realised by sale of all the estates was Rs. 2,01,750 or nine times the Government revenue of the properties sold against ten times during the last year. Eighty-three appeals were preferred to Commissioners against sales, of which nine were successful, while recommendations for the annulment of sales on the ground of hardship were made in eleven cases and were all accepted with the exception of one.

The Sale Law was not in force in Angul and no estate was sold in Sambalpur under the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1881.

Redemption of Land Revenue.

28. No case of redemption of land revenue occurred during the year.

Miscellaneous Revenue.

29. The total receipts of miscellaneous revenue including those from forest lands in Government Estates decreased from Rs. 7,95,729 to Rs. 6,56,707. The decrease is primarily due to the fall in receipts under recovery of survey and settlement costs owing to postponement in Hazaribagh and in the Dumraon estate. Among other causes may be mentioned (i) the non-settlement during the year of the quarries in the Rajmahal subdivision in the district of the Santal Parganas, (ii) the fall in the receipts from fees on permits for fuel and sale-proceeds of wood and from compensation realised in forest offences, (iii) the limitation to Rs. 3,000 a year of the receipts by transfer from the "Sarbarakari and Chaukidari Reward Fund" in the district of Angul which swelled last

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

year's receipts under this head by Rs. 45,196. The total under "other receipts" decreased from Rs. 2,15,414 in the preceding year to Rs. 1,75,309. The amount remitted under this head during the year was Rs. 11,715 against Rs. 15,081 in 1913-14, and relates entirely to fines under the Land Registration Act.

Sale of Government Estates.

30. Two petty Government Estates covering an area of 4·53 acres in the district of Monghyr were sold during the year for Rs. 39, subject to a combined revenue demand of Rs. 17-5-0, and four plots of Railway "A" class lands, with a total area of 33·06 acres, and six plots of Railway "C" class lands with a total area of 168·32 acres were sold for Rs. 6,111 and Rs. 12,785, respectively.

Payment of Revenue and Rent by Money Orders.

31. The total number of money orders and the amount of land revenue and cesses covered by them decreased from 164,320 and Rs. 14,19,526 to 164,320 and Rs. 12,11,827, respectively. In ten districts the aggregate sum remitted exceeded Rs. 50,000 and in five it exceeded a lakh of rupees as against four in the preceding year. The number and the amount of rent money orders increased from 31,429 and Rs. 5,34,654 during the year 1913-14 to 33,152 and Rs. 5,48,583 respectively, the increase being shared by all the Divisions except Bhagalpur and Orissa. The percentage of refusals rose from 22·65 in the previous year to 25·1.

Roads and Public Works Cesses.

32. The current cess demand for the year was Rs. 52,79,635 against Rs. 52,04,280 in the previous financial year, showing an increase of Rs. 75,355, which was due mainly to the annual revision of the assessment on mines and forests in the districts of Manbhum and Hazaribagh and also to the cess re-valuation operations in the district of Purnea. The actual collections amounted to Rs. 78,830 in excess of those for the previous financial year. The percentage of total collections on the current demand exceeded the prescribed standard of a hundred per cent. in eight districts against eleven in the preceding year.

Since the close of the year, a Bill to amend the Bengal Cess Act, 1880 (Act IX of 1880), was introduced into the Provincial Legislative Council with a view to giving effect, among other things, to the orders of the Government of India in regard to the surrender of the Public Works Cess to District Boards.

Certificate Procedure.

33. The total number of certificates filed on account of all demands, including those on account of cesses, showed a decrease of 2,287 as compared with that of the previous year. Cases for disposal amounted to 95,997 inclusive of those pending from the preceding year. The number disposed of was 78,892 against 84,364 during the previous year and the number of cases pending at the close of the year came down from 17,822 in 1913-14 to 17,105 in 1914-15. The number of cases pending for more than six months was also reduced from 1,972 to 1,800.

Land Registration.

34. The total number of applications for registration of succession to proprietary interests in land by purchase, inheritance, gift or otherwise for disposal during the year was 51,477, inclusive of 10,293 cases pending at the close of the preceding year, out of which 42,686 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 8,791 pending at the close of the year. The year opened with 874,204 recorded interests and closed with 878,213 which is inclusive of the difference between 55,993 old interests removed and 60,002 new interests entered. One hundred and fourteen mutations were recorded in the district of Sambalpur under Section 125 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1881. Transfer lists were regularly furnished by civil courts, sub-registry and other offices and registers were generally kept up-to-date. The expenditure on land registration work shows an increase of Rs. 3,365 as compared with the previous year's figures, the increase being due mainly to the employment of special staffs in the districts of Monghyr and Shahabad in connection with the revision of Register D. No cases of fraudulent registration were brought to light during the year. The district of Sambalpur contributed Rs. 46 on account of mutation fees. Towards the close of the year a special officer was placed on deputation for three months to make a preliminary examination of the present system of Land Registration and to report what further steps, if any, should be taken to deal with this complicated and difficult question.

35. The number of partition cases instituted during the year was 441 against 374 in the previous year and that disposed of was 390 against 312 during the year 1913-14. One thousand one hundred and fifty-seven cases were pending at the close of the year against 1,106 in the previous year. The number of cases pending for more than two years was reduced from 509 to 497. **Partition.**

Surveys.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending 30th September 1915.]

36. The outturn of the traverse survey during the year was 1,121 square miles in the district of Palamau. In addition, the following miscellaneous surveys were undertaken and completed :— **Outturn of the year.**

The traverse of the Ganges *diara* and the erection of reference pillars in the districts of Bhagalpur, Purnea and the Santal Parganas ; subtraversing of the Kolhan area in the district of Singhbhum ; traverse of the Gandak *diara* in Champaran, and six isolated petty surveys.

37. The Imperial Standard Mapping Section severed its connection with the Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office from the 26th October 1914, when it was made over to the Director of Surveys, Bengal and Assam. **Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.**

The work of the Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office continued to be satisfactory. The Gulzarbagh office is now fully equipped and is in a position to prepare and reproduce larger quantities of maps, if required.

Land Records and Settlements.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending 30th September 1915.]

38. Survey and Settlement operations were in progress during the year in nine districts of the Province. The area cadastrally surveyed was 5,590 square miles. Preliminary records were written for the same area. Records were prepared for attestation in 6,442 square miles, attested in 5,772 square miles and finally published in 2,356 square miles. Rents of 19,056 tenants were settled. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 10,54,226. **General.**

39. The year's programme consisted of cadastral survey and record-writing of 1,656·81 square miles. In addition 6·51 square miles, appertaining to the Government estates, which had been previously surveyed but were excluded from the scope of the operations, were topographically surveyed. The area under attestation was 1,599·55 square miles. Of the 79 cases in which proceedings were taken under section 58 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the failure to grant rent receipts in proper form, 68 ended in conviction. Throughout the whole of Gaya the practice of withholding proper receipts for produce-rents is almost universal except in the bigger estates. **Permanently settled estates, Bihar. Gaya**

The contest between landlords and tenants regarding the system of produce-rent was very keen, though it was overshadowed by the more difficult question of the shares payable. The landlords' claims to a $\frac{9}{16}$ths share of the produce after appraisement were very numerous. This system of produce-rent is known as *danabandi nausat* as opposed to *danabandi nisf* according to which the share is equivalent to half the produce. The custom in Gaya by which landlords pay the whole cost of irrigation works, both initial and recurring, without which cultivation is almost impossible in the district, is mainly responsible for the several systems of produce-rents. The whole subject is receiving the careful consideration of Government.

40. The Survey and Settlement operations in Shahabad including the recovery of costs were completed during the year. **Shahabad.**

41. In the district of Hazaribagh the programme of work consisted of the final publication of the record-of-rights in 1,713 square miles, computation of settlement cost of the above area and disposal of post-publication suits under **Chota Nagpur Hazaribagh**

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Sections 87 and 130 and settlement of fair rents under Section 85 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act in 1,806 square miles (second year's area) and 1,855 square miles (third year's area). The whole programme was completed with the exception of the settlement of rents which is still in progress.

Palamau.

42. The whole of the year's programme consisting of the cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing (both field and recess) of 1,459 square miles and attestation and draft publication of 1,172 square miles was duly completed. There were 171 boundary disputes, all of which were disposed of.

Revision Settlement, Champaran.

43. The area embraced by the programme was 1,742·73 square miles. The Gandak *diara* in the Bettiah subdivision, which was left unsurveyed in the previous season owing to the absence of permanent features on which to base the survey, and the *diara* of the same river in the Sadr subdivision were cadastrally surveyed on the basis of a traverse survey. The year's experience has shown that it will not be feasible to maintain permanent pillars, however massive, owing to the changes in the course of the river, and a detailed survey is hardly worth the cost. The two Municipalities in the district, Bettiah and Motihari, were cadastrally surveyed under the Calcutta Survey Act at the request of the Municipal Boards. The area under attestation was 1,511·55 square miles. 16,255 objections were filed under Section 103A of the Bengal Tenancy Act of which 4,493 were allowed. The experience of twenty years has taught all parties the uses and the value of the record, and the revision proceedings are being subjected to a critical scrutiny that is quite unknown in original settlements. Many interesting questions regarding rents arose during the season, one of the most important dealt with being the *Sharahbeshi* question, or the enhancement of rent in consideration of the abrogation of the obligation of the raiyats to grow indigo in three-twentieths of their holdings. This was allowed only in cases in which contracts to grow indigo were executed by the raiyats before the Bengal Tenancy Act came into force in 1885, such contracts being now invalid under Section 23 of the Act.

Agrarian conditions in the area under consideration vary considerably. Throughout the district as a whole the relation between the European landlords and their tenants is satisfactory. In a certain number of *thikadari* tenures, held under both the Ramnagar and the Bettiah estates, relations are very strained, the main cause of the discontent being the levy of illegal exactions or *abwab* of various kinds.

Singhbhum-Kolhan Government Estate.

44. The programme of work during the year consisted of the cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing (field and recess) of 731 square miles attestation and draft publication of 636 square miles, case work under Sections 83 (1) and 111 (6) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, and Settlement recess work of the same area. The whole programme was completed with the exception of the last item. Special enquiries were made into the existence of *khuntkatti* rights. There were 3,531 objections under Section 83 (1) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.

Maintenance of Records in Orissa and Sambalpur.

45. Experimental maintenance of records under the triennial scheme was carried on under the same system as in the previous year in Balasore and in several thanas of Cuttack district. The lack of interest in the proceedings became more perceptible than last year and towards the end of the year operations were closed.

The scheme for the preparation of new maps and records for the district of Sambalpur was sanctioned by the Local Government in November 1914 and one-fifth of the total area of the district was taken up for the first season's programme. The Patwaris received an initial training at Sambalpur and after four or five months' practice under an expert surveyor, they were capable of turning out accurate detailed village maps.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

46. The work of the maintenance of boundary marks continued to receive adequate attention. During the financial year of 1914-15, the receipts in the fund for the maintenance of boundary marks brought the total to Rs. 34,095, while the total expenditure was Rs. 2,004-6-6.

Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914-15.]

Number and Management of Government Estates.

47. The total number of estates under direct management during the year including those of private individuals was the same as last year (281), but the current demand increased from Rs. 17,07,062 to Rs. 17,81,617. The cost of management showed a further satisfactory fall from Rs. 1,46,288 to Rs. 1,44,077, the percentage on current demand being 8·08 as against 8·8.

Improvements.

48. The total expenditure on miscellaneous and sanitary improvements was Rs. 1,32,709 as against Rs. 1,44,204 in the preceding year. A special grant of Rs. 16,000 was made by Government to Angul out of the hide license fees. This was spent on works of improvement in certain tracts where it was considered necessary to provide work for impoverished persons.

Education.

49. The expenditure on education in Government Estates was Rs. 20,797 as against Rs. 33,287. The number of schools increased during the year in the Patna Division while there was a fall in the Chota Nagpur Division and in the district of Balasore of the Orissa Division. The decrease is attributed to failure of crops which compelled the poorer boys of school-going age to leave their homes and go abroad in search of employment, as well as to the amalgamation of the smaller schools with larger ones and to the closing of some schools by reason of poor attendance.

Roads and Communications.

50. The expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 92,567, while the $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. grant made for Roads and Communication in Government Estates was Rs. 40,125.

In Angul in addition to the Government Estates' grant a sum of Rs. 5,600 was expended in the Khondmals subdivision out of the Road fund.

Condition of raiyats.

51. Despite the unfavourable nature of the monsoon in most parts of the Province the condition of raiyats in the Government Estates was not on the whole unsatisfactory. In certain Khas Mahal villages in the district of Balasore, short crops in two successive years necessitated the suspension of the revenue demands and a similar situation in Angul was met by a liberal distribution of advances and by taking in hand works of improvement to provide employment for those in need of work. In Palamau where almost all the crops suffered for want of timely rain, in addition to measures of the same nature, distress was mitigated by the employment provided by the ordinary programmes of work of the District Board and of the Public Works and Reserve Forest Departments. Some cases of desertion, abandonment and relinquishment of holdings were reported from the districts of Shahabad, Bhagalpur, Santal Parganas, Sambalpur and Palamau. In Palamau, on the other hand, 25 new families came from the Jagirdari villages and settled on Government lands. Plague occurred in some villages of the Bhagalpur Division. There were sporadic cases of cholera and small-pox in the district of Puri, while one of the villages in Monghyr was visited by small-pox of a rather virulent type. In Angul, Banki and Khurda rinderpest carried off a large number of cattle.

Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates.

[Report on the Administration of Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates for the year 1914-15.]

Number of estates under management.

52. Two new estates were taken under management and ten were released. The number of estates at the close of the year was 160 of which 101 were managed under the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, 1876.

Payment of Government demands.

53. The percentage of the payment of revenue and cesses due to Government was 99·14 as against 98·9 in the preceding year.

Rent and cesses due to superior landlords.

54. The percentage of the total payment under this head was 70·4 as against 69·5 in the previous year. The balance unpaid was Rs. 85,438 which, with a few exceptions, was due to refusals by landlords, disputes and other legal difficulties.

Collection of rent and cesses due to estates.

55. The percentage of collections on current demand fell from 98·6 in the previous year to 94·6. The standard of 100 per cent. was attained in two Divisions only.

Balances of rent and cesses due to estates.

56. The outstanding balances of rent and cesses due to all estates amounted to Rs. 46,39,982, representing 76·1 per cent. on the current and 43·1 per cent. on the total demand, against Rs. 43,41,075 with similar ratios of 70·6 and 40·9 in 1913-14. As in the previous year, the balance exceeded the current demand only in the Chota Nagpur Division (135·1 per cent.). The percentage of certificates disposed of was 74·9 of the total number for disposal while the amount realised was 47·2 per cent. of the demand covered by certificates against 56·4 in the preceding year. The number of civil suits for hearing during the year was 1,734 of which 1,382 were disposed of. Of the 352 cases pending at the close of the year the Ramgarh Estate in Hazaribagh is responsible for 127. Recoveries amounted to Rs. 85,330 out of Rs. 1,85,525 decreed or only 45·9 per cent.

Management charges.

57. The percentage of the cost of management for the whole Province was 9·8 as compared with 11·9 in the previous year. The standard of 10 per cent. was exceeded in the Patna, Tirhut and Orissa Divisions. The increase in the percentage was due to the payment of arrear salaries, travelling and grain compensation allowances and increased expenditure on contingent charges.

Improvements.

58. The amount spent on works of improvement, schools and dispensaries was Rs. 4,07,545 as compared with Rs. 4,33,572 in the previous year. The King Edward Memorial Hospital at Bettiah in the district of Champaran, built entirely at the cost of the estate, was formally opened during the year by the Lieutenant-Governor.

Education of Wards.

59. The education of Wards continued to receive due attention and the results attained are on the whole satisfactory.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

[Land Revenue Administration Report, 1914-15.]

Tenancy Acts.

60. The various Tenancy Acts in force in the Province continued to work smoothly during the year under review. The question of the amendment of certain defects in the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, 1908 (Bengal Act VI of 1908), has been taken up by the Board, which is collecting material. The system of produce rents in Bihar, which has been the source of much friction between landlords and tenants, is engaging the careful attention of Government who intend to make a thorough examination of the provisions in the Bengal Tenancy Act, regarding produce rents. The matter will be taken up on the completion of the Settlement operations in the district of Gaya, with a view to the introduction of such amendments as may be necessary. With the increased knowledge of the provisions of the tenancy laws gained during the Settlement operations, tenants are making a greater opposition to the levy of *abwab* and other illegal exactions, which have been stopped to a great extent in the three Divisions of Bihar. In the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions, however, they appear to be more or less prevalent as they are regarded as customary by the tenants and are generally paid as a matter of course and without objection. Such an attitude makes it difficult to eradicate the practice.

Payment of rent.

61. Cases of failure to grant proper receipts for rent were reported from most of the districts in the Province. In Orissa palm-leaf receipts are happily now almost a thing of the past, but manuscript receipts are still freely used by petty zamindars in Puri district. The Board has drawn the attention of all District and Subdivisional officers to the desirability of keeping an eye on this matter of rent-receipts, especially during the course of their tours in the interior. There was again an increase in the number and amount of money orders for the payment of rent; the percentage of money orders refused acceptance to money orders issued rose from 22·65 in 1913-14 to 25·1.

In the Orissa Division the number of rent-suits of all kinds increased in Balasore and Puri, while Cuttack shows a slight decrease. The heavy institution

of rent-suits by the Receiver of the Kurai Praharaj Estate and the failure of two successive crops swelled the number in Balasore, while the change in the period of limitation under the Orissa Tenancy Act for instituting suits for the recovery of produce rent is said to be responsible for the increase in Puri.

In the Chota Nagpur Division, 8,714 suits for arrears of rent were instituted against 9,607 in the preceding year. The decrease is mainly due to the fact that landlords and tenants are alike beginning to realise the futility of contesting the Settlement records.

Relations between landlords and tenants.

62. The relations between landlords and tenants were unsatisfactory in those districts where major Settlement operations were either imminent or in progress. Welcome signs of improvement are, however, noticeable elsewhere as the result of a fuller comprehension of their rights gained by tenants and an increasing tendency on their part to resist any form of oppression.

In Chota Nagpur, the question of jungle rights continues to be a bone of contention and the same source of friction is reported from the Chakai Estate in the district of Monghyr. In Purnea, in some estates, due concessions were not allowed to tenants on account of bad crops and the low price of jute, but they were harassed either by suits for arrears of rent on a large scale, or by estate peons ; and one such case actually ended in murder.

The practice adopted by a certain zamindar of putting up to regular auction all alluvial formations and abandoned holdings gave rise to a novel source of agrarian discontent in the Santal Parganas.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

Legislative Authority.

[Also refer for this to Bihar and Orissa Administration Report, 1911-12, Chapter III, Pages 144 to 148.]

Legislative Council.

63. In addition to the two changes recorded in the report for last year, two further changes occurred in the year under report in the body of the non-official members of the Legislative Council; the Hon'ble Mr. Keshari Prasad Singh was elected by the landholders of the Patna Division in the place of the Hon'ble Maharaj Kumar Gopal Saran Narayan Singh of Tikari, who resigned his seat in Council as the representative of that electorate, and the Hon'ble Babu Lachmi Prasad Sinha was elected by the District Boards of the Bhagalpur Division to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rai Bahadur Sheo Shankar Sahay, C.I.E.

Course of Legislation.

Bills passed, The Jharia Water Supply Act. The Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act.

64. Five meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year. Four Bills were introduced during the preceding year, and of these two, namely, the Chota Nagpur Rural Police Bill and the Bihar and Orissa Ferries (Amendment) Bill, were also passed into law during it. The other two, namely, the Jharia Water Supply Bill and the Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Bill, were passed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th April 1914 and received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor and Governor-General.

Bills introduced.

65. No Bills were introduced during the year under report.

Police.

[Report on the Administration of the Police Department for the year 1914. Statistics of British India, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.]

Force.

66. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the two Military Companies stationed at Ranchi and Bhagalpur. The strength of the Civil Police stood at 70 officers of superior ranks and 17,796 subordinates. The force actually employed at the end of the year was short of the sanctioned strength by two Inspectors, 28 Sub-Inspectors, three Sergeants, 36 Head Constables and 343 Constables. The percentage of literate constables showed an improvement of three as compared with the previous year. Of the newly recruited Sub-Inspectors all but three had passed the Matriculation examination. A force of one Sub-Inspector, one Head Constable and ten Constables was employed in Champaran from the 19th January 1915.

Discipline.

67. The number of judicial punishments was 101 or fifteen more than in 1913. Departmental punishments also rose considerably. Of 80 charges against the police 39 were dismissed or found to be false. Eleven cases ended in conviction, the delinquents including two Sub-Inspectors and fourteen constables. In two cases from Cuttack the accused were charged with ill-treatment for the purpose of extortion. One of these cases ended in the conviction and consequent dismissal of a Sub-Inspector; in the other a Head Constable committed suicide before judgment was delivered. In Sambalpur a Sub-Inspector and two constables were found guilty of severely assaulting an accused person in order to extract a confession, and were sentenced respectively to thirty and ten months' rigorous imprisonment. Besides these three cases, two Sub-Inspectors were degraded and two received lesser punishments, while one Head Constable was dismissed and one degraded. Of the cases declared to be false ten of the complainants were prosecuted of whom five were convicted. There has been a general

improvement in the attention paid to the investigation of complaints against the police, and, in particular, in the increase in the number of such complaints which are investigated by Magistrates.

68. In a few districts the pay of Chaukidars was raised—a step which was necessary in some cases owing to the rise in the cost of living. The President system was introduced in Angul where the existence of well organized village and tribal headmen who are selected to serve as Presidents gives it a better promise of success than in other districts where the main difficulty is to obtain the services of persons commanding sufficient influence. **Rural Police.**

The work of Presidents showed little or no improvement, and it is doubtful whether any substantial advance in this respect can be made until an agency is provided for the more thorough supervision of Chaukidari work. The appointment of thirteen Sub-Deputy Collectors for employment on Chaukidari work in Chota Nagpur was sanctioned by the Government of India during the year and a commencement was made with the creation of five of these posts. The percentage of Chaukidars rewarded rose from ten to fifteen and the amount of rewards paid increased from Rs. 30,897 in 1913 to Rs. 50,651.

69. The work of the Criminal Investigation Department increased considerably during the year. The Finger Print Bureau identified as old offenders 645 accused or suspected persons. The special measures taken for the prevention of dakaitis in the Purnea district were attended with success and the ring-leader in a number of similar crimes in the Jamtara subdivision of the Santal Parganas was convicted. The persons concerned in a case of burglary at Gaya in which property to the value of Rs. 30,000 had been stolen were convicted, a gang of swindlers in the Saran district was exposed and an organized system of fraud by means of railway tickets was detected. **Crime.**

Two cases of political crime were dealt with during the year. One was the murder of a *Mahant* at Nimej, a village in the Shahabad district, by certain members of a secret society established at Jajpur in order to obtain money for the revolutionary party, and the other a dakaiti committed at Chainpur, a village in the Cuttack district, by a gang of the so-called political dakaits from Bengal.

Members of a dangerous gang of dakaits known as Digambar Bhumij's gang and several other criminal tribes were proclaimed under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1911. The proposal to send certain convicted members of the Eranga Kol tribe to Assam was abandoned owing to the refusal of the prisoners to accept the conditions offered to them.

True cases of rioting and unlawful assembly increased from 409 in 1913 to 464. The largest number of cases occurred in Gaya (47), Darbhanga (43) and Monghyr (36). Shahabad and Hazaribagh showed a considerable decrease of 22 and thirteen cases respectively. There were no serious *diara* disputes. Cases under section 145 were nearly twice as numerous in the Patna Division as in the previous year, but there was a decrease in the total number of cases in which action was found necessary under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

There were 193 cases of murder or seventeen less than in 1913. Of sixteen cases of murder by poison, only two were of a professional character.

There was a satisfactory decrease in the number of dakaitis, 93 cases against 136 in 1913. The decrease is most noticeable in the Bhagalpur Division where cases fell from 47 to 27. A marked decline took place in cases of robbery (99 against 126) and burglary (17,098 against 17,745). Cases of cattle-theft fell from 1,220 in 1913 to 1,061, which is partly attributed to successful prosecutions for bad livelihood, and to the infliction of adequate punishments on convicted offenders. Only two cases of flaying goats alive were reported against twenty in the previous year. The special attention of district officers was drawn to the necessity of doing everything in their power to stamp out this form of cruelty.

There was an increase in the number of false civil suits reported to the police for action. Only one conviction was obtained during the year, but the

PROTECTION.

punishment awarded was exemplary—the accused being sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500 under sections 206, 210 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code.

Security cases.

70. The number of bad livelihood cases instituted decreased from 1,008 in 1913 to 880. Seventy-seven per cent. of these cases ended in conviction. The number of persons against whom proceedings were submitted by the police fell from 1,804 to 1,501 and the number ordered to furnish security from 1,385 to 1,145.

Remands.

71. The percentage of cases decided at the first three hearings rose from 65·2 to 66·6, while the percentage of cases remanded more than six times fell from 4·6 to 4· Low percentages of cases decided at the first three hearings are shown by Patna (52), Gaya (57), Shahabad (58), Purnea (59) and Monghyr and Sambalpur (60) and high percentages of cases remanded more than six times by Monghyr (10), Muzaffarpur (7·1), Hazaribagh (6·3) and Gaya (6·1). The improvement in Shahabad noticed in the previous year has been maintained.

Mortality caused by wild animals and snakes.

[Report on above, and measures taken during 1914 for their destruction. Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

Wild animals.

72. The total mortality was 547 against 546 in 1913. The number of deaths caused by tigers increased in the Ranchi and Manbhum districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, in the former owing to the depredations of a man-eater in the Gumla subdivision.

Snakes.

73. The number of deaths caused by snake bite rose from 5,640 to 5,968. The Tirhut Division, where the figures are generally high, shows a decrease. The mortality increased in the Bhagalpur Division owing to heavy rainfall.

Cattle killed by wild animals.

74. The aggregate number of cattle killed fell from 16,942 to 16,105 in spite of a remarkable increase in the Gaya district where the number of deaths was nearly doubled owing to want of rain during the year.

Destruction of wild animals.

75. The total number of wild animals destroyed rose from 1,550 to 2,760. The total amount of rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and snakes was Rs. 15,492 against Rs. 11,892 in 1913.

Criminal Justice.

[Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Province of Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914.—Statistics of British India, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial.]

Judicial staff.

76. Twelve Sessions Judges were employed throughout the year. In addition to the permanent staff, Additional Sessions Judges were employed temporarily for short periods in Patna, Shahabad, Muzaffarpur and Manbhum-Sambalpur. Three Subordinate Judges vested with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judge were employed for varying periods at Gaya, Shahabad, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Manbhum-Sambalpur and Hazaribagh.

The magisterial staff of the Province at the close of the year consisted of 252 stipendiary and 328 honorary magistrates. These figures represent a decrease of twelve and fifteen, respectively, as compared with the previous year. Among the latter were two special magistrates in Shahabad. Of the 252 stipendiary magistrates, 160 exercised first, 68 second and 24 third class powers.

Sixty-three benches of magistrates were constituted from among the 328 honorary magistrates employed during the year. Of these, 59 were independent and four were restricted to the trial of cases under the Municipal Act.

Offences reported.

77. There were 104,053 criminal offences reported during the year, an increase of 3,414 on the figures of 1913, of which 68,253 were under the Penal Code, and 35,800 were under special and local laws. These figures are more by 1,512 and 1,902, respectively, than those of 1913. There was an increase in

the number of offences in fourteen districts and a decrease in six. The increase was most marked in Saran, Balasore, Manbhum, Monghyr and Darbhanga, and the decrease in Purnea and Bhagalpur.

78. The number of cases which were found to be false, or in which complaints were dismissed during the year, was 23,558, or 22·6 per cent. of the number reported. This number includes cases pending inquiry at the close of 1913. The percentage for 1913 was the same. Complaints were dismissed in 20,779 cases, or 312 more than in 1913. The number of cases declared to be false after trial or inquiry was 428 more than in 1913. **False cases.**

79. Of the total number of cases under inquiry during the year, 80,888 were found to be true, and of these 63,891 were brought to trial. Inquiries were pending at the close of the year in 4,671 cases. The number of cases found to be true and the number brought to trial show increases of 2,927 and 2,827, respectively, on the figures of 1913. **True cases.**

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

I.—Magistrates' Courts.

80. At the opening of the year, 1,782 cases, excluding cases of lunatics, were pending before magistrates. During the year, 63,914 cases were brought to trial including references under sections 347 and 349, Criminal Procedure Code; 64,014 cases were disposed of, and 1,643 remained pending at the close of the year. The number of cases brought to trial was 2,845 more than in 1913. The increase was mainly in offences under special and local laws (1,543), in offences against the human body (617), and in offences affecting the public health (386). **Total cases for trial.**

The increase was spread over ten districts and was most marked in Saran (1,030), Ranchi (629), Patna (469), and Darbhanga (452). A decrease was reported from nine districts and was most marked in Manbhum (695), Purnea (596) and Bhagalpur (353).

The disposals were distributed as follows :—

—	Tried regularly.	Tried summarily.
District Magistrates	54	9
Subordinate stipendiary magistrates	44,712	7,912
Honorary magistrates	6,124	415
Benches of magistrates	3,579	1,998
Special magistrates	52	...

Of the 54 cases tried regularly by District Magistrates, eleven cases were decided by the Deputy Commissioners of Palamau and Singhbhum in the exercise of their special powers under section 34 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

In addition to the cases shown above, District and Subdivisional Magistrates decided 59 cases referred to them under sections 347 and 349 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The number of cases decided during the year was more than in 1913 by 2,934. This increase is accounted for by the disposals of subordinate stipendiary magistrates, benches of magistrates and special magistrates who

decided, respectively, 2,940, 58 and 13 cases more than in 1913. There was, on the other hand, a decrease of 56 and 21 in the number of cases decided by District Magistrates and honorary magistrates sitting singly, respectively.

Results of trials.

81. Of the total number of cases shown in the preceding paragraph, 622 were committed or referred to the sessions, and 63,392 were finally disposed of by magistrates. In these latter, 97,138 persons were accused, as against 91,866 in the previous year, and of these 47,800, or 49·2 per cent. were convicted, and 49,338, or 50·8 per cent. were acquitted or discharged. In 1913, 48·9 per cent. of the persons tried were convicted. The percentage of convictions was again highest in Muzaffarpur (64·8): it was lowest in Darbhanga (34·1).

Of persons acquitted or discharged, the cases of 26,906 were compounded, withdrawn or dismissed for default: the percentage of convictions of persons actually tried was 68, against 65·6 in 1913.

Of the persons tried for offences under the Indian Penal Code, 18,902, or 32·6 per cent., were convicted and 38,977, or 67·4 per cent., were acquitted or discharged. Excluding the cases of 21,198 persons compounded, withdrawn or dismissed for default, the percentage of convictions was 51·9, against 50·8 in the previous year.

The total number of persons awaiting trial before magistrates at the close of 1914 was 3,797, as compared with 3,800 in 1913. The number of persons in custody at the close of the year was 304, as against 288 at the end of 1913.

The general result of trials before magistrates of each class was as follows:—

—	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Percentage of convictions.
Benches of magistrates	2,420	4,748	66·2
Subordinate stipendiary magistrates ...	42,344	37,779	47·1
Honorary magistrates	4,449	5,071	53·5
Special magistrates	48	78	61·9
District magistrates	77	124	61·6

Of the persons shown above as convicted, the numbers tried summarily were, by benches of magistrates, 2,142; by subordinate stipendiary magistrates, 7,730; by honorary magistrates, 337; and by District Magistrates, 9.

The mode of trial of the total number of persons convicted and the nature of the sentences passed were as follows:—

—	Appealable sentence.	Non-appealable sentence.
On regular trial	27,134	10,448
On summary trial	2,529	7,689

Punishments.

82. The sentences passed on the persons convicted were as follows:—

Imprisonment	rigorous	9,723
	simple	411
Fine	with imprisonment	1,798
	without imprisonment	35,535
Whipping	sole punishment	321
	additional punishment	4

A term of solitary confinement was included in 63 of the sentences of rigorous imprisonment; and in the cases of 39 youthful offenders a sentence of imprisonment was commuted to detention in a reformatory school. Eight of the sentences of whipping were not in accordance with the Whipping Act

of 1909, seven of which were executed. Nine hundred and thirty-six persons were called upon to give security for good behaviour, and 926 of these were sentenced to terms of imprisonment not exceeding one year on failing to comply with the orders. Two hundred and eleven persons were released on probation under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Against persons who had previously been so released, proceedings were subsequently taken against 68, of whom two were discharged and 66 convicted and punished. One thousand and ninety-four persons were required to execute bonds to keep the peace, of whom 523 had been convicted of offences involving a breach of the peace. These numbers show an increase of 226 and 156, respectively, as compared with the figures for 1913. Of the sentences of imprisonment imposed, 1,978 were for terms not exceeding fifteen days ; 6,702 for terms not exceeding six months ; 2,328 for terms not exceeding two years ; and thirteen for terms exceeding two years.

The fines imposed aggregated Rs. 3,45,518. During the year Rs. 2,90,628 were realised and Rs. 46,706 were paid as compensation to complainants out of fines.

83. In addition to criminal trials, the following were the more important classes of work dealt with by magistrates during the year :— **Miscellaneous Proceedings under the Code of Criminal Procedure.**

There were 621 proceedings under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code, to prevent a breach of the peace, in which 2,927 persons were involved. The number of cases and of persons involved therein was less by two and thirteen, respectively, than in 1913. Of the persons concerned, 571 were required to execute bonds to keep the peace, in addition to the persons mentioned in the preceding paragraph as having been similarly bound down on conviction. The number of persons dealt with under this chapter was largest in Saran (422) and Gaya (326). The increase in the number of proceedings of this class was marked in Patna and Bhagalpur (97 each), Gaya (87) and Darbhanga (81), while there was a noticeable decrease in Cuttack (305).

In 713 cases, 1,261 persons were called upon to show cause why they should not give security to be of good behaviour, and the orders were made absolute against 1,041. Of these 1,031 failed to give the required security and were imprisoned in default, 105 after reference to the court of session under section 123 of the Code, and 926 under orders of magistrates for terms not exceeding one year.

Proceedings for the abatement of nuisances under Chapter X of the Code were taken in 940 cases, and in the cases of 26 persons a reference was made to a jury under section 138 of the Code. The number of cases under Chapter XII of the Code involving questions of the possession of land decided by magistrates during the year was 817, a decrease of nine on the figures for 1913.

Under section 250 of the Code, 465 complainants were ordered to pay compensation to accused persons, the accusations brought by them having been found to be frivolous or vexatious.

Proceedings for maintenance under Chapter XXXVI of the Code were taken against 370 persons, and orders were made absolute against 100.

84. The number of witnesses examined in the courts of magistrates was 161,910, as compared with 161,872 in 1913. The number who attended and were discharged without examination was 60,838, or 27·3 per cent. of the whole number in attendance. In the preceding year the percentage was 25·1. The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses of their attendance rose from Rs. 39,709 in 1913 to Rs. 45,658 in 1914. **Witnesses.**

Of the total number in attendance 174,744 (78·4 per cent.) were discharged on the first day ; 37,119 (16·7 per cent.) on the second ; 8,980 (4 per cent.) on the third ; and 1,905 (·9 per cent.) after the third day. The number of witnesses detained for more than three days was five less than the number so detained in 1913.

The districts in which the largest proportion of witnesses was detained for more than three days were Patna (2·4) and Gaya (2·1). Explanations of these detentions have, as usual, been dealt with by the High Court.

II.—*Courts of Session.*

Commitments, etc.

85. The number of cases committed for trial or referred during the year was 622, and the number disposed of, including pending cases of the previous year, was 617. These figures show an increase of 26 and 32, respectively, on the figures for the preceding year. There were 91 cases pending at the close of the year.

Commitments increased in Champaran from 23 to 38, in Darbhanga from 17 to 28, in Balasore from 11 to 21, and in Manbhum from 34 to 44. On the other hand, the numbers fell in Monghyr from 40 to 25, in the Santal Parganas from 46 to 35, in Shahabad from 41 to 36, and in Cuttack from 24 to 19. The number of commitments in Patna (54) was the largest in the Province.

Results of trials.

86. The number of persons under trial before courts of session during the year was 1,592, or 52 more than in 1913. The cases of 1,361 persons were decided, and 228 remained under trial at the close of the year. Of the 1,361 persons tried, 895, or 65·7 per cent., as against 59·5 per cent. in 1913, were convicted, and 436 were acquitted or discharged, and the cases of 30 persons were referred to the High Court under section 307 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Punishments.

87. The following sentences were passed by the courts of session during the year :—

	Death		26
Transportation ...	for life		74
	for a term of years		18
Imprisonment ...	rigorous		679
	simple		8
	Fine		83
	Whipping		8

In the cases of six out of 679 persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment the sentences included terms of solitary confinement; and in the case of one youthful offender the sentence of imprisonment was commuted to detention in a reformatory school. Seventy-six of the sentences of fine and four of whipping were additional punishments. Besides the above, 105 persons were sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (19 for a term not exceeding one year and 86 for terms between one year and three years) on failure to furnish security for good behaviour; and four persons who had been convicted of an offence involving a breach of the peace, were required to execute a bond with sureties to keep the peace in addition to their substantive punishment.

Sentences of imprisonment were passed for the following terms:—

Not exceeding ...	15 days		10
	6 months		123
	2 years		243
	7 years		398
Exceeding ...	7 years		17

Fines to the amount of Rs. 11,070 were imposed by courts of session, as compared with Rs. 6,162 imposed in the preceding year. The total realisations

of the year aggregated Rs. 2,233 as compared with Rs. 3,496 in 1913. The compensation awarded to complainants during the year, out of fines realised, was Rs. 533.

88. The number of persons tried by jury during 1914 was 81. The Sessions Judge approved of the verdict of the jury in respect of 76 persons and disapproved of it in respect of five. In the case of four persons the Sessions Judge disagreed with the verdict so completely as to consider it necessary for the ends of justice to make a reference to the High Court under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The results of these references are given below under the head "Superintendence, Reference and Revision". **Jury trials.**

89. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors during the year under review was 1,087, with the result that in the case of 703 persons the Sessions Judge concurred with the opinion of both the assessors; in the case of 129 he differed from the opinion of one; and in the case of 255 he differed from the opinion of both. The corresponding figures for 1913 were 1,031, 678, 171 and 182, respectively. **Trials by assessors.**

90. The average duration of sessions trials, from the date of commitment to the date of decision, was 48·1 days, as compared with 43·4 days in 1913. Notice was, as usual, taken by the High Court of all cases of unusual duration. The duration of cases was notably high in the district of Patna (62·7 days), Manbhum (61·1 days), Bhagalpur (60·5 days) and Champaran (60 days). The duration of cases increased from 33·4 days to 62·7 days in Patna, from 25 days to 49·6 days in Palamau and from 41·5 days to 60·5 days in Bhagalpur. On the other hand, there was an appreciable improvement in Shahabad, from 56·4 days to 41·4 days; in Sambalpur from 66 days to 51·8 days; and in Hazaribagh from 46·1 days to 34·5 days. **Duration of cases.**

91. The number of witnesses in attendance before the courts of session was 9,177. Of these, 6,554 were examined and 2,623 discharged without examination. In 1913, the corresponding figures were 8,178, 5,763, and 2,415, respectively. **Witnesses.**

Of the total number in attendance, 4,721 (51·4 per cent.) were discharged on the first day; 2,173 (23·6 per cent.) on the second day; 1,025 (11·2 per cent.) on the third day; and 1,258 (13·8 per cent.) after the third day. The results are on the whole less satisfactory than in the preceding year. Due notice of the long detention of witnesses has been taken by the High Court in reviewing the district reports.

The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses incurred by them in attending sessions trials was Rs. 16,779, as compared with Rs. 15,552 in 1913.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

I.—High Court.

92. At the beginning of 1914, 25 appeals were pending before the High Court from sentences or orders of criminal courts, and during the year 304 appeals were preferred and 293 decided. The numbers preferred and decided were five more and thirteen less, respectively, than in the preceding year. The pending file of 36 cases shows an increase of eleven. **Appeals.**

Two hundred and ninety-nine appeals were preferred against sentences passed by courts of session. Five appeals were preferred by the Local Government against orders of acquittal.

93. Two hundred and eighty-eight appeals against sentences of courts of session were decided during the year. The orders of the lower courts were upheld in 217 instances, reversed in 20, and modified in 51. **Results of appeals.**

The results of the appeals decided during the year, as regards individuals, were that the appeals of 267 persons were summarily dismissed under section 421 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and that, in admitted appeals, the

sentences on 139 appellants were confirmed, on 67 reduced or altered, on eleven enhanced, and on 49 annulled. In the cases of five a new trial or further inquiry was ordered. The percentage of appellants who were entirely unsuccessful was 75·4, as against 71 in 1913.

Appeals against acquittals.

94. Two out of the five appeals by the Local Government against orders of acquittal were dismissed. In one case, the High Court set aside the order of acquittal passed by a Deputy Magistrate and directed a re-trial. In another case, the accused was convicted and sentenced by a Deputy Magistrate under section 403 of the Indian Penal Code, but was acquitted by the Sessions Judge on appeal. The High Court set aside the order of acquittal and sentenced the accused to three months' rigorous imprisonment under the above section. In the remaining case, the appeal to the High Court was against the order of an additional Sessions Judge acquitting the accused of charges under sections 302 and 304 of the Indian Penal Code, and convicting and sentencing him to one year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 10 under section 325 of the Indian Penal Code. The High Court convicted the accused of murder and sentenced him to transportation for life; they also expressed the opinion that the accused should be kept under medical observation.

II.—*Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court.*

Sessions Courts.

95. There were 75 appeals pending before the courts of session at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,938 appeals were preferred. Of these, 1,921 were decided, and 90 were pending at the close of the year. The remaining two appeals were transferred to another district for hearing. The number of appeals preferred to Sessions Judges was 27 less than in 1913.

In the appeals decided by Sessions Judges during 1914, 3,452 persons were concerned. The appeals of 1,177 of these, or 34 per cent., were summarily dismissed; 1,049 appellants, whose appeals were admitted, were altogether unsuccessful; 449 obtained a reduction or alteration of sentence; 703 were acquitted; and in the case of 74 appellants a new trial or further inquiry was ordered.

The proportion of persons whose appeals were wholly unsuccessful, successful in obtaining a modification of the original orders, and successful in obtaining their reversal, was 64·4, 13 and 20·3, respectively. Of those concerned in admitted appeals only the proportions were 46·1, 19·7 and 30·9 per cent. If admitted appeals only are taken into account, the results were more favourable to appellants than those of the previous year.

Magistrates' Courts.

96. In the courts of magistrates there were 94 appeals pending at the beginning of the year. During the year, 2,174 appeals were preferred; of these 2,168 were decided, and 100 were pending at the close of the year. The number preferred was 174 more than in 1913.

The number of persons whose appeals were decided by courts of magistrates was 4,057. The appeals of 838 were summarily dismissed, and the sentences on 1,576 whose appeals were admitted, were confirmed. Two thousand four hundred and fourteen appellants, or 59·5 per cent. were, therefore, wholly unsuccessful. Of the remainder, 518 appellants, or 12·7 per cent., obtained a modification of the sentences passed on them, and 1,071, or 26·3 per cent., were acquitted. In the case of 54 appellants a new trial or further inquiry was ordered. These results are more favourable to appellants than in the previous year.

SUPERINTENDENCE, REFERENCE AND REVISION.

I.—High Court.

References under section 307, Code of Criminal Procedure.

97. One reference under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure from the verdict of a jury was pending in the High Court at the opening of the year and three were made during the year. Three of these references were decided during the year and one remained undecided at its close. The result of the three

cases decided was that the verdict of the jury was accepted in two cases and set aside in one.

References under section 374, Code of Criminal Procedure.

98. Twenty references under section 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for confirmation of the sentence of death were made to the High Court during 1914, and one was pending at the opening of the year. Sixteen were decided during the year, and five were pending at its close. In the references decided 23 persons were concerned. The death sentence on thirteen persons was confirmed, and in the cases of six the sentence was commuted to transportation for life. The remaining four persons were acquitted.

References under section 341, Code of Criminal Procedure.

99. The cases of four persons, who though not insane, could not be made to understand the proceedings, were referred for the orders of the High Court. Three cases were disposed of during the year and one was pending at its close. In two cases the convictions were approved, but the High Court passed a sentence only in one case, and, in the other, directed the release of the accused on any person executing a bond for his good behaviour for a period of six months. In the remaining case the reference was returned as not falling under section 341, Code of Criminal Procedure, and the magistrate was directed to explain to the accused that it was open to him to prefer an appeal.

Revision.

100. During the year, 78 cases were reported for the orders of the High Court by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and three were pending at the opening of the year. Of these, 79 were decided and two remained pending. The number reported was thirteen more than in 1913. In 37 cases the orders sent up for revision were set aside or the proceedings quashed, and in eight a new trial was ordered. Sentences were reduced or altered in eight cases. In the remaining 26 cases the High Court declined to interfere.

Orders were passed under section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in 553 cases, an increase of six on the figures of the previous year. Of these, 550 came before the High Court on applications made to it, and three were taken up on review of sessions statements, or otherwise on its own motion.

Three hundred and sixty-nine applications for the issue of rules were rejected. Of the 181 rules issued, 55 were finally discharged; 67 were made absolute in their entirety; the orders complained of were modified in 30 cases and quashed in one; and in 28 cases a new trial was ordered. The principal figures for the preceding year were 301 applications rejected, 236 rules issued, 71 discharged and 94 made absolute.

Applications for transfer.

101. In two out of the three cases taken up by the High Court on review of sessions statements or otherwise on its own motion, the order passed by the lower court was enhanced; in one case the sentence was reduced.

Fifty-seven applications under section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for transfer of cases from one court or district to another, were made in 1914, and one was pending from the preceding year. Fifty-eight were dealt with, of which 24 were summarily rejected. In eight cases transfers were granted without the issue of a rule. In 26 cases rules were issued, with the result that transfers were granted in eleven and refused in fifteen cases. The principal figures for the preceding year were 36 applications, eighteen rules issued, fifteen granted and three refused.

II.—Courts subordinate to the High Court.

Sessions Courts.

102. The cases of 2,223 persons were decided on revision by courts of sessions during the year. These include the cases both of accused persons who themselves applied for revision of the orders passed on them in the courts of magistrates, and of accused persons against whom such applications were made by complainants. The number was less than in 1913 by 40. The applications of 1,289 persons were rejected; and as regards 314 the orders of the lower court were confirmed. Orders passed in the cases of 20 persons were reversed; in fifteen instances proceedings were quashed; and the order of the lower court was modified in the cases of six persons. In the cases of 406 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed, and the cases of 173 persons were referred to the High Court.

Magistrates' Courts.

103. The cases of 2,239 accused persons who applied for revision, or against whom applications were made by complainants, came before District Magistrates. The number was more by 30 than in 1913. The applications of 940 persons were rejected, and in the cases of 501 the original sentence or order was upheld. Sentences or orders affecting sixteen persons were modified, and those affecting 313 were reversed. In the cases of six persons proceedings were quashed, and in those of 435 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed. The cases of 28 persons were referred to the High Court.

III.—General.

Trials of European British subjects.

104. The cases of twenty European British subjects were decided during the year, against nine in the preceding year. Of these, nineteen were dealt with by magistrates and one by a court of session. Of the accused persons, one of whom claimed to be tried by a mixed jury, eight were convicted and twelve acquitted. The convictions were in one case for an offence against public justice, in one for an offence against the human body and in the remaining cases under special and local laws. The largest number of European British subjects was tried in Manbhum (8).

Result of criminal work.

105. There was an increase during 1914, as compared with the previous year, in the amount of original and appellate work disposed of by magistrates; there was a slight decrease of revisional work. In the courts of sessions, there was an increase in sessions and revisional work but a decrease of appellate work. In the High Court there was an increase of revisional and a decrease of appellate work.

Receipts and charges.

106. Debiting, as usual, to the administration of criminal justice a portion of the salaries of judicial officers proportionate to the time which their returns show them to have devoted to criminal work, the total charges for the year amounted to Rs. 14,25,511; of this amount Rs. 8,20,116 were for the salaries of the judicial officers; Rs. 83,103 for fixed and temporary copying establishments; Rs. 38,193 for process-servers; Rs. 2,20,340 for other establishments; and Rs. 2,63,759 for contingencies and refunds.

The receipts were Rs. 6,90,722. Of this amount, Rs. 2,62,389 were under fines; Rs. 79,642 under process fees; Rs. 1,03,717 under copying and comparing fees; Rs. 1,73,710 under court-fee stamp receipts other than the above; and Rs. 71,264 were miscellaneous receipts. The receipts and the charges exceeded those of 1913 by over Rs. 55,000 and Rs. 19,000, respectively.

Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts.

Santal Parganas and Angul.

107. The number of cases brought to trial during the year 1914 in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 5,854 against 6,516 in the previous year, and the disposals amounted to 5,724 as against 6,424 in 1913. Out of the 9,072 persons under trial, including those awaiting trial from the previous year, 4,327 were acquitted or discharged and 4,389 convicted. Of the cases brought to trial 765 were for criminal force and assault, 709 for theft, 534 for criminal trespass, and 2,236 for offences under special and local laws. The punishment of whipping was inflicted in 76 cases against 47 in the previous year. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 529, of whom 144 were wholly or partly successful.

Jails.

[Administration Report on the Jails of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914.—Statistics of British India, Part VI—Judicial.]

General condition of prisoners.

108. The daily average population of all classes of prisoners in 1914 decreased from 7,192 in 1913 to 7,008. This decrease in the total population was

accompanied by a more than proportionate decrease in sickness and mortality. The health of the prisoners was better than in the previous year and not a single case of plague occurred in any jail. There was also a further decrease in the total number of cases of malaria, undoubtedly owing to the almost general practice of issuing quinine to prisoners as a prophylactic during the rains. The incidence of dysentery shows an improvement over the preceding year, but the number and cases of deaths from tubercle of the lungs showed some increase. In almost every case the disease was contracted before admission to jail.

Juvenile and female offenders.

109. Owing to the institution of a juvenile jail at Monghyr on Borstal lines with effect from 1st April 1914, only two boys of under fifteen years of age were left to undergo their sentences of imprisonment in ordinary jails. There was no complaint with regard to the unnecessary imprisonment of juvenile or female convicts for short periods. It may be noted that the number of such cases occurring in the past has apparently been over-stated.

Jail Industries.

110. Steps have been taken to standardise the cotton industries in the jails. The need for this is shown by the fact that it becomes difficult at times to arrange for the disposal of unsold goods owing to the remarkable variations in size, quality and price which exist in different jails. The financial results of the year's work of the Manufactory Department were again satisfactory and reflect credit on those concerned.

Subordinate Jail Establishment.

111. The question of revising the pay of the warder staff is still under consideration. Experience in Bihar and Orissa, as in other Provinces, has shown that the rate of pay now offered is not sufficient to attract the class of men desired, but owing to the present financial situation it is unlikely that effect will be given for some time to what must necessarily be a large and costly scheme.

Subsistence Allowance of prisoners on release from jails.

112. The payment of increased monthly gratuities to convict officers of all grades has generally been appreciated by them, but it is difficult to say how far it has effected its object of increasing their efficiency. The experiment of granting pecuniary help to indigent prisoners, on release from jails, has not as yet borne any results.

Forms Press.

113. During the course of the year a Forms Press was established in the jail at Gaya for supply of Forms to all Departments of Government in this Province. It was found that the accommodation and the staff required for a Press capable of turning out about fifty millions of forms a year had been considerably under-estimated. The result was that several new buildings had to be erected and the work of printing postponed to a date some months later than that originally intended. The Gaya Press is now in working order and it is hoped that no further outside assistance will be needed.

Administration.

114. The recall to Military duty of officers of the Indian Medical Service on account of the war led to considerable changes in the *personnel* of the Superintendents. The Central Jails, with the exception of Buxar, are now held as collateral charges by the Civil Surgeons of the districts, in which they are situated and this arrangement must necessarily continue for so long as the present circumstances prevail. Owing to the raising of the status of the Gaya District Jail to that of a 2nd class Central Jail there are at present two first class and two 2nd class Central Jails in the Province. The number of District Jails has accordingly been lowered to eighteen. Subsidiary jail buildings have been completed at Chatra (Hazaribagh), Simdega (Ranchi) and Bargarh (Sambalpur). The number of such jails therefore increased from 39 in 1913 to 42 in the year under report.

Civil Justice.

[Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Province of Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914.—Statistics of British India, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial.]

Judicial staff.

115. The permanent civil judicial staff employed in the Province during the year under report consisted of twelve District and Sessions Judges, nineteen Subordinate Judges, and sixty-eight Munsifs. Four executive officers exercised

the powers of Subordinate Judge or Small Cause Court Judge and six the powers of Munsif. In addition to the permanent staff, the following temporary appointments were sanctioned during the year :—

temporary additional District Judges were employed in Patna, Shahabad, Muzaffarpur and Manbhum-Sambalpur ;

temporary additional Subordinate Judges were employed at Monghyr and Shahabad throughout the year, exclusive of the vacation ; at Patna and Cuttack from the 1st January and the 1st April, respectively, till the vacation ; at Bhagalpur and Hazaribagh from the 7th July and the 21st August, respectively, till the end of the year, exclusive of the vacation ; at Manbhum from the 23rd June till the 17th September and at Gaya from the 30th November till the end of the year ;

two temporary additional Munsifs were employed in Purnea, *viz.*, one throughout the year exclusive of the vacation, and the other from the beginning of the year till the 3rd July. Four temporary additional Munsifs were employed in Shahabad, *viz.*, one at Arrah for six months from the beginning of the year, one at Arrah and Sasaram for the same period from the 22nd January, one at Buxar from the 23rd January till the end of the year, exclusive of the vacation, and one at Sasaram from the 26th August till the 17th September. One temporary additional Munsif was employed at Madhipura (Bhagalpur) for three months from the 30th May.

Original Jurisdiction.

Original suits instituted.

116. The number of original suits instituted in the Province was 165,555, This figure shows a decrease of 6,095 on that of the previous year. The decrease was most marked in Cuttack (2,696), Shahabad (2,527) and Purnea (1,639), while the increase was greatest in Darbhanga (1,355).

The decrease in Cuttack was chiefly in suits for money or movables, in Shahabad in rent suits, and in Purnea in title and other suits. The increase in Darbhanga was under the head " Rent suits."

Of the 165,555 suits instituted, 53,786 were suits for money or movables. 90,360 rent suits, and 21,409 title and other suits, showing a decrease of 4·1, 2·8, and 5·1 per cent., respectively.

The value of the suits instituted amounted to Rs. 9,61,90,137.

Local distribution.

117. The decrease in the number of suits instituted was spread over six districts, and the increase occurred in as many. Cuttack with 22,371 suits occupies the first place in respect of the number of institutions.

In Purnea the institutions were between 20,000 and 30,000 ; in Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Shahabad, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, and Patna between 10,000 and 20,000, in Manbhum-Sambalpur and Gaya between 5,000 and 10,000, and in Chota Nagpur below 5,000.

The largest number of money and title suits was instituted in Cuttack, and of rent suits in Darbhanga, the numbers being 18,003, 4,368 and 14,692, respectively.

Nature of suits instituted.

118. The following table shows that the majority of suits instituted were, as usual, for trifling sums :—

	Suits for money and movables.	Suits under the rent law.	Title and other suits.
Rs.			
Not exceeding 10	3,193	25,600	1,009
Not exceeding 50	23,460	40,466	4,422
Not exceeding 100	11,709	12,271	3,546
Not exceeding 500	13,374	10,637	7,998
Exceeding Rs. 500 or value not stated ...	2,050	1,386	4,434
TOTAL ...	53,786	90,360	21,409

Of the suits under the rent law, 99·1 per cent. were for realisation of arrears of rent. Of the suits classified as title suits, 32 per cent. were mortgage suits, 55·6 for immovable property, and 2·7 for specific relief. The suits which come under this head represent in value 86 per cent. of the total litigation in the Province. All the 26 suits of the value of over a lakh instituted during the year were title suits.

Number of suits disposed of.

119. The number of suits instituted during the year, added to the number pending at its commencement and to the number revived or received on remand or review during the year, gave a total number of 257,185 suits for disposal, a decrease of 7,895 on the figures of the previous year. The number disposed of was 179,059, being an increase of 1,405 over the figures of 1913. The increase occurred entirely in contested suits, which rose from 28,417 to 30,049 ; the number of uncontested suits decreased from 149,237 to 149,010.

The increase in the number of suits disposed of was spread over five districts, and was conspicuous in Shahabad (8,975), Bhagalpur (1,057), and Muzaffarpur (705). The decrease was most marked in Darbhanga (from 23,098 to 18,986).

Of the total number of suits decided, 169,661 were disposed of by Munsifs, 9,212 by Subordinate Judges, 86 by Small Cause Court Judges, and 100 by District and Additional District Judges. The disposals rose by 1,004 in the courts of Munsifs, by 390 in the courts of Subordinate and Small Cause Court Judges, and by eleven in the courts of District and Additional District Judges.

Results of suits.

120. In the suits disposed of during the year, plaintiffs were unsuccessful in 38,599 cases, or 21·5 per cent., of which 27,653 were dismissed for default, they were successful in 105,059 cases, or 58·7 per cent., and in 35,401, or 19·8 per cent., a compromise was effected. There was little variation as compared with the previous year.

Of the 30,049 suits decided after contest, 24,719, or 82·3 per cent., resulted in favour of plaintiffs, and 5,330, or 17·7 per cent., in favour of defendants.

Applications for re-trial.

121. The proportion of applications for re-trial to the number of cases which were dismissed for default, or in which decrees were made *ex parte*, was 8·2 per cent., the numbers being 8,737 and 105,914, respectively. The applications were successful in 3,647 cases, or 41·7 per cent.

Suits decided by Munsifs.

122. As stated above, the number of suits decided by Munsifs shows an increase of 1,004 on the figures for 1913. The average number of suits disposed of by each Munsif employed throughout the year was 2,356 against 2,162 in 1913. About one-fifth of the total number disposed of by Munsifs was under the Small Cause Court procedure.

The number of contested suits disposed of by Munsifs in 1914 was 27,449, or 16·1 per cent. of the total. In 1913 the proportion was 15·3 per cent. In suits under the ordinary procedure disposed of by Munsifs, the percentage of those contested was 17·3 and in suits under the Small Cause Court procedure 11·1. The variations in the proportions, as compared with the previous year, are slight.

The figures are :—

Under ordinary procedure.		Under Small Cause Court procedure.		Total.
Contested.	Uncontested.	Contested.	Uncontested.	
23,827	113,356	3,622	28,856	169,661

Suits decided by Subordinate Judges.

123. The number of original suits disposed of by Subordinate Judges was 9,212, an increase of 396 over the figures of the previous year. The number of suits decided under the ordinary procedure was 3,803 and under the Small

PROTECTION.

Cause Court procedure 5,409 ; of these, 1,453, or 38·2 per cent., and 1,079, or 19·9 per cent., respectively, were contested. The percentage of suits disposed of on contest under the ordinary procedure shows a decrease and under the Small Cause Court procedure an increase, as compared with the figures for 1913.

Disposals by Small Cause Courts.

124. The provincial Small Cause Courts disposed of 86 original suits, of which ten were contested. The figures for the previous year are 92 and twelve, respectively.

Average duration of suits.

125. The average duration of suits (contested and uncontested) decided during the past year by the several grades of courts was as follows :—

		District Judges.	Subordinate Judges.	Munsifs.	Small Cause Court Judges.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Under ordinary procedure.	contested	428	420	243	...
	uncontested	349	261	132	...
Under Small Cause Court procedure.	contested	...	88	75	14
	uncontested	...	54	48	14

The results show a general increase in the duration of suits decided by Munsifs and District Judges. There was an improvement in the duration of contested cases under the ordinary procedure disposed of by Subordinate Judges, but the duration of uncontested cases under the same procedure and of contested cases under the Small Cause Court procedure before those officers increased. An improvement is noticed in the courts of Small Cause Court Judges.

Pending suits.

126. The number of suits pending at the close of the year was reduced from 87,427 to 78,126.

Of the pending suits, 2,342 had been pending for more than a year, 8,699 for more than six months, and 34,092 for more than three months. There were 1,300 suits pending for more than a year in the courts of Munsifs and 1,042 in the courts of District and Subordinate Judges. The number of such suits was largest in Muzaffarpur (582), Shahabad (437), Gaya (235), Patna (231), and Monghyr (230), and the total for the Province shows an increase of 50 over the figures of the previous year. The increase in the number of long pending suits in Muzaffarpur is chiefly due to the heavy file of the Munsif of Sitamarhi. The long pending file in Shahabad shows a sensible decrease, as compared with the previous year. As usual, the delays in these districts as well as in others were chiefly due to frequent adjournments granted at the request of parties.

Execution proceedings.

127. There were 29,454 applications for execution of decrees pending from the previous year, and 106,290 applications were made during the year. Full satisfaction was obtained in 51,244 and partial satisfaction in 11,946 cases. In 39,395 cases the proceedings were returned as infructuous, and 31,568 remained pending at the close of the year. The proportion of infructuous proceedings in execution of decrees was highest in Cuttack (67·5 per cent.). The next highest percentages were in Manbhum-Sambalpur (59·9) and Chota Nagpur (55·4). The total amount realised in courts other than Small Cause Courts was Rs. 98,20,425.

The coercive measures employed were imprisonment of judgment-debtors in 144 cases, arrest followed by release in 668 cases, sale of movable and immovable property in 1,224 and 18,959 cases, respectively, and attachment of property followed by its release in 26,566 cases. Possession of immovable property was given in 2,100 cases, of which the largest number was in the district of Manbhum-Sambalpur.

PROTECTION.

128. Twenty-two thousand three hundred and forty-five cases of a judicial nature, other than suits and execution proceedings, were instituted, 22,076 were disposed of, and 5,481 were left pending. Of the cases disposed of, 9,694 were withdrawn, compromised or confessed, 5,036 were decided *ex parte*, and 7,346 were contested. Of the total number of applications disposed of after contest, 51·7 per cent. were granted. Of the pending cases, 39 were more than a year old. **Miscellaneous cases.**

The number of miscellaneous cases of a non-judicial nature instituted and disposed of was 4,472 and 4,494, respectively. The number of applications for the deposit of rent was highest in Muzaffarpur (695), Saran (471) and Gaya (325). The decrease in Muzaffarpur from 838 to 695 is noticeable.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

I.—Appeals in the High Court.

129. The number of first and second appeals from the decrees and orders of the superior civil courts in Bihar and Orissa which came before the High Court and which were decided during the past year, was as follows :— **Appeals from subordinate Courts.**

	Pending at the close of 1913.	Preferred.	Decided.	Pending at the end of 1914.
First Appeals—				
From decrees . . .	758	244	298	704
From orders . . .	134	144	141	137
Second Appeals—				
From decrees . . .	2,249	1,138	1,481	1,906
From orders . . .	93	100	94	99
Total .	3,234	1,626	2,014	2,846

Of the 1,382 appeals from decrees instituted during the year, 327, or 23·6 per cent., were valued at less than Rs. 50. In 1913 the proportion was 21·1 per cent.

The number of first appeals from decrees and of second appeals from decrees and orders decided was more than that of 1913 by 143, 356 and nineteen, respectively.

The number of first appeals from orders decided shows a decrease of twenty, as compared with the previous year.

The number of first and second appeals pending at the close of the year was less by 51 and 337, respectively, than at the close of 1913.

130. Of the 298 appeals from original decrees decided during the year, 57 were uncontested, being dismissed for default, withdrawn or compromised. Of those decided after contest, 162 decrees of the lower courts were confirmed, 47 reversed, 22 modified and ten remanded. **Results of appeals.**

Of the 1,024 appeals from appellate decrees of District Judges, 464 were summarily rejected, fourteen were compromised, four were withdrawn and eleven were dismissed for default ; while, of the remainder, 329 decrees were confirmed, 54 reversed, 56 modified and 92 remanded.

Of the 457 appeals from appellate decrees of Subordinate Judges, 241 were summarily rejected, five compromised, three withdrawn, and eight were dismissed for default ; while, of the remainder, 145 decrees were confirmed, sixteen reversed, twelve varied and 27 remanded.

Of the 235 appeals from orders decided, 82 were uncontested and 153 were decided after trial. Of the latter, 102 orders were confirmed, 33 reversed, six varied and twelve remanded.

Appellants were entirely unsuccessful in 1,576 cases, or 78·2 per cent. of appeals of all classes.

PROTECTION.

II.—Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court.

Appeals instituted.

131. There were 7,476 appeals instituted in 1914, of which 3,692 were in rent suits, 3,041 in title suits, and 743 in suits for money or movables. The total was 734 less than in 1913, the decrease being in rent and title appeals.

The number of appeals valued at sums below Rs. 10 and between Rs. 10 and Rs. 50 was 641 and 1,945, respectively. The total value of appeals instituted in 1914 was Rs. 17,60,884.

The number of cases in which an appeal lay, decided by subordinate courts, was 24,160, and the proportion of appeals instituted to appealable decisions, excluding appeals from decisions of revenue officers, was 28·9 per cent. The highest percentages were in Cuttack (47·6), Manbhum-Sambalpur (44·2), Gaya (43) and Patna (35·6), and the lowest in Bhagalpur (21·2), Monghyr (21·9) and Muzaffarpur (22·7).

The number of appeals instituted in 1914 was smaller than in the previous year in six districts and larger in as many. The decrease was largest in Shahabad (561). The largest increase (113) occurred in Gaya.

Appeals disposed of.

132. The number of appeals disposed of was 7,946, an increase of 323 over the figures of the previous year. Of these, 5,461 were decided by District and Additional District Judges and 2,485 by Subordinate Judges. These figures show an increase of 291 and 32, respectively, on the figures of the previous year. The number decided after contest (6,667) was more by 248 than in 1913.

The increase in disposals was spread over seven districts, and was largest in Shahabad (203) and Muzaffarpur (161). In Shahabad the rise was due mainly to the fact that the Additional District Judge spent nearly twice as many days as in 1913 on civil work. In Muzaffarpur the District Judge was able to devote more time to civil work than in 1913 and a temporary Additional District Judge also contributed to the increase.

The number of cases decided fell off in five districts, the decrease being largest in Patna (363). The decrease at Patna was due entirely to a large fall in the number of rent appeals disposed of; there was a compensatory increase in the number of money and title appeals decided.

Appeals pending.

133. There were 5,736 appeals pending at the close of the year, or 244 less than at the end of 1913. Of these, 1,026 were pending for more than one year, as compared with 598 in 1913.

Results of appeals.

134. The result on the decisions of the lower courts of the appeals decided during the year was as follows :—

In 4,129 cases, or 51·9 per cent., of the whole, the judgment of the lower court was affirmed; in 1,168 cases, or 14·7 per cent., it was modified; and in 1,319, or 16·5 per cent., it was reversed. The results are more favourable to the lower courts than in the preceding year. Three hundred and ninety appeals were remanded, and 940 were either not prosecuted or dismissed for default.

Miscellaneous appeals.

135. Twelve hundred and ninety-three miscellaneous appeals were instituted during the year. Thirteen hundred and fourteen were disposed of and 367 remained pending at the close of the year.

General.

136. The main result of the year's working was an appreciable reduction of the pending files, both original and appellate, owing to larger disposals and smaller institutions in each case. There was a slight increase in the long pending file of original suits, but the number of year old appeals increased appreciably; explanations have, as usual, been dealt with by the High Court.

Inspections.

137. The courts of ten Subordinate Judges and 27 Munsifs were inspected by District Judges.

Receipts and charges.

138. The receipts of the civil courts for the year under review amounted to Rs. 36,95,471, a decrease of Rs. 72,717 on those of the previous year, and the charges to Rs. 14,08,358, an increase of Rs. 23,249 on those of 1913. Including the amount of Rs. 1,14,884 realised on account of duty on

probates, etc., there was a profit to the Government from civil litigation of Rs. 22,87,113, and exclusive of the item referred to, the surplus amounted to Rs. 21,72,229. Details of the receipts and charges are as follows:—

Receipts.			Rs.	Charges.			Rs.
In stamps	Process fees	...	6,78,025	Salaries of Judicial officers		...	5,77,968
	Other fees	...	27,33,384	Establisment	Process-servers		1,55,258
In cash or special stamps.	Fines ...	...	1,610		Others	...	4,20,657
	Copying and comparing fees.		2,03,263	Copyists' fees	...	...	1,69,383
	Other receipts	...	79,189	Contingencies and Refunds		...	85,092
	TOTAL	...	36,95,471	TOTAL		...	14,08,358

Receipts show a decrease on the previous year's figures of over seventy-two thousand rupees; the decrease chiefly occurred under "Other fees." The increase in expenditure is principally under the head "Copyists' fees."

CIVIL JUSTICE IN SCHEDULED DISTRICTS.

Santal Parganas and Angul.

139. The total number of suits instituted during the year in the Civil Courts in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 13,213 as against 13,830 in the previous year. Of these 6,940 were suits for money and movable property, 4,866 rent suits and 1,407 title and other suits. Rent suits decreased by 21·3 per cent., while money and title suits increased by 8·3 and 12·5, respectively. The number of cases disposed of amounted to 12,589, leaving 2,550 pending at the close of the year. There were 9,383 applications for the execution of decrees, of which 1,800 remained pending at the close of the year. Seven hundred and thirteen appeals from decrees were filed and 629 disposed of. Out of 127 miscellaneous appeals, 118 were disposed of.

Registration.

[Statistical returns showing the operations under the Registration Act in Bihar and Orissa during 1914. Statistics of British India, Part II—Commercial, Part VI—Administrative and Judicial.]

Staff.

140. The year under report was marked by very substantial improvements in the pay and prospects of the employés of the Department brought about by the re-grading of District Sub-Registrars and Sub-Registrars on a more liberal scale than before and by the reorganisation of the ministerial establishments of the Department. Both the schemes were sanctioned and given effect to during the year under report. The system of commission on fees allowed to *ex-officio* Sub-Registrars was modified, and it has been directed by India Government order No. 904-C., dated the 7th February 1914, that "no commission shall in future be paid to any member of the Indian Provincial or Subordinate Provincial Service for work done in connection with the Registration Department". As a special concession, however, officers who had already been drawing commission fees from before have been allowed to continue drawing such commission, but the concession will not, in the event of their transfer, be extended to their successors.

Offices.

141. The Sub-Registry Office at Lohardaga, in the district of Ranchi, which had been opened as an experimental office in 1907 and continued from year to year, was made permanent from 2nd January 1914. The Sub-Registry Office at Patamundai in Cuttack, which was opened as an experimental measure

PROTECTION.

for one year from the 15th May 1913, was retained for a further period of a year, and a new experimental office was started at Jale, in the district of Darbhanga, from the 1st March 1914. Both the above offices are still being continued. Five temporary offices were opened during the year at Madhubani, Dinamath, Jagiraha, Pipra and Mahuawa Ramgarh, in the district of Champaran, and worked for short periods in connection with the registration of *kabuliyats* executed by tenants of certain indigo factories. The temporary office at Dhekaha, in the same district, which had been opened in the preceding year for a similar purpose, also continued for some time during the year under report.

Statistics.

142. The total number of registrations in Books I, III and IV increased from 449,292 in 1913 to 471,415 in 1914, *i.e.*, by 4·9 per cent., and the total income of the Department rose from Rs. 6,01,532 in 1913 to Rs. 6,41,778 in 1914, *i.e.*, by 6·6 per cent. The increase in revenue was a natural consequence of the increase in registrations. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 3,10,371 in 1913 to Rs. 3,35,743 in 1914, *i.e.*, by 8·1 per cent., chiefly due to the improvements in the pay of Sub-Registrars and their clerks.

Registration in the Various Divisions.

Patna Division.

143. Registrations decreased in the districts of Patna and Gaya and increased in the district of Shahabad. The decrease in Patna, by 6·1 per cent., is attributed to good harvests, and that in Gaya, by 11·4 per cent., to the people being occupied with the Survey and Settlement operations and to the opening of Co-operative Credit Societies which offered facilities for borrowing money without entailing the necessity of registration of bonds. The increase in Shahabad was by 17·5 per cent. and was due among other things to high prices of food-grains, commutation of produce-rents into cash-rents and growing appreciation of the evidential value of registered documents.

Tirhut Division.

144. Registrations increased in all the districts except Champaran, where the number of deeds fell off by 18·7 per cent. In Saran the increase amounted to 5·5 per cent., in Muzaffarpur to 12·1 per cent. and in Darbhanga to 12·7 per cent., in all these three districts high prices of food-grains prevailed almost throughout the year, and there was also a partial failure of crops. In Champaran there had been an abnormal increase in the number of documents during 1913. The registration of leases in large numbers as a consequence of the amicable arrangements arrived at between proprietors of certain factories and their tenants, continued for some time in 1914 also, and in six temporary offices 7,436 *kabuliyats* were registered. This number was, however, very much less than that of documents registered in the ten temporary offices of the previous year.

Bhagalpur Division.

145. Registrations increased in the districts of Monghyr and Bhagalpur and decreased in the districts of Purnea and Santal Parganas. The increase in Monghyr amounted to 11·4 per cent. and in Bhagalpur to 10·6 per cent. High prices of food-grains and poor harvests were chiefly responsible for the increase, and in Monghyr settlement of lands in several estates was an additional factor. Decrease in Purnea, by 3·1 per cent., is believed to have been due to depression in the jute trade consequent on the European war. The Santal Parganas Regulation, III of 1908, is responsible for the decrease, from year to year, in the Santal Parganas district; the decrease in 1914 amounted to 3 per cent. of the previous year's figure.

Orissa Division.

146. Registrations increased in the districts of Cuttack and Balasore, but fell off in Sambalpur, Angul and Puri. The increase in Cuttack was by 9·6 per cent., and in Balasore by 5·7 per cent. Loss of crops caused by the floods of 1913 contributed to the increase in both cases and the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Act is mentioned as an additional factor in Balasore. Over a thousand *kabuliyats* pertaining to Khasmahal lands of Cuttack town were registered during the year and helped to swell the figure for Cuttack. The decreases in Sambalpur and Puri amounted to 1·4 per cent. and 0·8 per cent., respectively, and call for no special remarks. The number of registrations in Angul was 22 against 23 of the preceding year.

147. Registrations increased in all the districts of this Division. In Hazaribagh the increase was by 0·8 per cent., in Ranchi by 6·3 per cent., in Palamau by 2 per cent., in Manbhum by 6·6 per cent., and in Singhbhum by 17·8 per cent. The continued increase in Manbhum is ascribed to the gradual appreciation by the people that after all the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, VI of 1908, did not altogether prohibit mortgage of *raiyati* holdings, as had been thought at first. It is probable that the same cause contributed to the increase in the other districts also of the Division, but is not specially mentioned by the District Registrars. In Singhbhum it is stated that the large increase which occurred in the number of mortgages was due to the renewal of old debts; there was also a large increase in the number of perpetual leases, assigned to the influx of wealthy people who have been coming to settle down in the district attracted by its healthy climate. In Ranchi the increase in registrations is said to have been due to rise in prices of food-grains and of imported articles ; in this district also there were numerous cases of renewal of mortgages. The increases in Hazaribagh and Palamau were small. **Chota Nagpur Division.**

148. The total number of companies, limited by shares, working at the close of the year under report was 48, with an aggregate authorised capital of Rs. 56,40,454 and an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 9,06,080 against 56 companies with an aggregate authorised capital of Rs. 62,94,454 and an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 8,51,016 with which the year started. The number of companies limited by guarantee at the close of the year under review was five against four at the close of the year 1913-14. **Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913.**

Only one new company limited by shares, styled the Model Dairy Farm Company, Limited, was incorporated during the year under report. It is a trading company with an authorised capital of Rs. 20,000, divided into 200 shares ; the head office is at Sakchi in the district of Singhbhum.

Six companies limited by shares, *viz.*, "The Buxar Co-operative Society, Limited", "Kayastha Messenger Company, Limited", "Bihar Printing and Publishing Syndicate, Limited", "Utkal Tannery Company, Limited", "Dinapur Tannery, Limited," and "The Bihar Trading Corporation, Shahabad, Limited", ceased to carry on their business during the year of report. Their names were consequently struck off the register in accordance with the provisions of section 247 of the Act and the companies were dissolved. Three other companies limited by shares, namely, "The Banka Banking, Trading and Agricultural Company, Limited", "Purulia Swadeshi Bhandar, Limited", and "India Prospecting Company, Limited," went into liquidation during the year. The aggregate authorised and paid-up capitals of these nine companies had been Rs. 7,04,000 and Rs. 33,308, respectively, at the close of the year 1913-14.

One company, *viz.*, the Hazaribagh Bank, Limited, increased its authorised capital during the year from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000. Fourteen companies increased their paid-up capital by amounts aggregating Rs. 88,372. No company reduced its capital during the year.

The net effect of these changes was a decrease in the number of Companies limited by shares by eight, and in their authorised capital by Rs. 6,54,000, but an increase in the paid-up capital by Rs. 55,064.

The only change in companies limited by guarantee was the formation of a new company, the Jharia Club, Limited. The Memorandum and Articles of Association were signed by nine members and provide for a maximum of 250 members.

Section 277 of the Act requiring companies which have been incorporated outside British India but have places of business within the limit of the Province to file statements and returns before the Registrar is a new feature. Nineteen such companies, *viz.*—(1) Cape Copper Company, Limited, (2) The Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, (3) The Rajghat and Furrow Estates, Limited, (4) The Rivers Steam Navigation Company, Limited, (5) Peninsular Tobacco Company, Limited, (6) Dickson-Irwin (Kodarma) Mica Mining Syndicate, Limited, (7) The Burmah Oil Company, Limited, (8) Motihari, Limited, (9) Lodna Colliery Company, Limited, (10) British India Steam Navigation

PROTECTION.

Company, Limited, (11) Henry Hill and Company (Turcowlia), Limited, (12) The Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company, Limited, (13) Singer Sewing Machine Company, (14) Cotton Powder Company, Limited, (15) The Purtabpur Company, Limited, (16) Baptist Missionary Society Corporation, (17) Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, (18) The India General Navigation and Railway Company, Limited, and (19) The India Collieries Syndicate, Limited, submitted the necessary statements during the year under review.

The total collections in fees under the Indian Companies Act amounted to Rs. 1,364. Registration fees realised in respect of statements filed under section 277 of the Act explain principally why, although only two new companies were registered during 1914-15, the receipts from fees did not fall much short of the realisations in preceding years (Rs. 1,537-6-0 in 1913-14 and Rs. 1,240 in 1912-13).

As far as could be ascertained from reports by District Officers, all Banking and Insurance Companies, with the exception of two, complied with the requirement of section 136 (corresponding to section 69 of the old Act). The two exceptions were the People's Economical Development Company, Limited, and the People's Mutual Insurance Society, Limited, of Cuttack, which, it appears from the Magistrate of Cuttack's report, have no fixed place of business at present and which are in a moribund condition.

No penalties for non-compliance with the requirements of the Act were levied during the year and no prosecutions were instituted. Unpunctuality in the submission of returns is, however, not uncommon, and steps are being taken to insist on greater punctuality in future. One company has, since the close of the year, been prosecuted for omissions to submit certain returns during 1914-15.

Working of Act XXI of 1860.

149. No new Society was registered in this Province under Act XXI of 1860 during the year under report, the number of such Societies registered under the Act and existing at the close of the year, being twelve as in the previous year.

Working of Acts V and VI of 1912.

150. There were no registered Life Assurance Companies or Provident Insurance Societies in the Province during the year under review as in the preceding years. The People's Mutual Insurance Society, Limited, Cuttack, which was called upon last year to have itself registered under the Provident Insurance Societies Act, omitted to make such application. Enquiries were made and it was ascertained that the Society was nevertheless issuing insurance policies and receiving premia in contravention of the provisions of the Act. A special report regarding the affairs of this Society was submitted to Government after the close of the year.

Working of the Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872.

151. Nine marriages were registered during the year as compared with seven in 1913-14. The age of the bridegrooms ranged from 21 to 39 and of the brides from 17 to 24. No widow was re-married during the year.

Working of the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis' Act.

152. Act I of 1876 (B. C.) was in force in six districts in the Province. No new office was opened during the year, which started and closed with a total of 31 offices. In eleven offices no registration took place. The number of ceremonies registered decreased from 276 to 232. The total receipts of the Qazi Registrars, including gratuities, amounted to Rs. 480-11 as against Rs. 483-8-0 in the previous year.

Municipalities.

[The reports from the Commissioners of Divisions on the working of Municipalities in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part VIII—Local Funds.]

Numbe.

153. There was no change either in the number of Municipalities or in the recorded aggregate population within the municipal areas in the Province.

Elections.

154. General elections were held in the Municipalities of Khagaul, Tikari, Daudnagar, Sitamarhi, Bhagalpur, Dumka, Cuttack, Kendrapara, Hazaribagh, and Giridih, and, except in Hazaribagh, the elections were everywhere contested. In Cuttack the results were published in 1915-16.

The total number of Commissioners rose from 772 to 775. This was due to an increase in the number of members of the Dumka Municipal Board from 9 to 12.

155. The municipalities convened 839 meetings, or one more than in the previous year, and of these 40 as compared with 35 in 1913-14 were adjourned or proved abortive for want of a quorum. The Municipalities of Tikari (9), Buxar (10), Dumka (10), and Hazaribagh (11) failed to meet once a month. **Number of meetings.**

156. The total number of rate-payers rose from 204,133 to 206,651, the increase being mainly due to the revision of assessment in certain municipalities in the Tirhut Division. In Darbhanga alone 1,563 rate-payers were added to the register. **Number of rate-payers.**

157. In Siwan and in portions of the Bettiah and Madhupur Municipalities the rate on holdings was substituted for the tax on persons. In Siwan and Bettiah the change resulted in an increase of Rs. 2,846 and Rs. 2,632, respectively. **Assessment and taxation.**

The report of the Audit Department discloses the fact that the municipalities in the Province have failed to take full advantage of the power of taxation on arable lands. In the majority of the municipalities no such tax is levied, and even where it is imposed the procedure is unsatisfactory. More attention might well be paid to this source of revenue.

158. The assessment was revised in 21 municipalities, but in only six was an appreciable increase of revenue obtained. The gain in Darbhanga was Rs. 10,263, in Arrah Rs. 7,133 and in Patna Rs. 3,837. **Revision of assessment.**

The assessment of new buildings in Ranchi brought in an increased income of Rs. 2,351. The assessment of the water-rate in the Gaya Municipality, for the full year as against half the year in 1913-14, was mainly responsible for an additional revenue of Rs. 16,863 in that town. The decrease of Rs. 1,135 in Barh was due to remissions and to the transfer of the Munsif's Court to Bankipore. There was trouble in connection with the revision of assessment at Bhagalpur. The Municipal Commissioners wished to cancel the new assessment on the ground that it was unfair and inequitable, but as this was pronounced to be illegal they are taking steps to modify it under the revisional powers they possess under the Act. The Examiner of Local Accounts has drawn attention to the fact that revision is very rarely carried out and given effect to in a regular way and in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Many omissions occur, the tax is not always assessed at the proper rate, and effect is not infrequently given to it from a date which is illegal. In one case a civil suit was brought against a municipality on the last ground and the assessment was declared to be void. This shows the necessity for a careful observance of the provisions of the Act.

159. Large outstanding balances were reported against Monghyr (Rs. 52,742), Patna (Rs. 14,111), Gaya (Rs. 11,944), Puri (Rs. 8,289), Ranchi (Rs. 6,403), Darbhanga (Rs. 4,498), Jamalpur (Rs. 3,585), and Cuttack (Rs. 2,864). In Gaya the pilgrim traffic was smaller than usual and the majority of the defaulters who derive their income from the pilgrims found difficulty in paying their taxes on that account. The unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Monghyr Municipality is of long standing. **Collections.**

The lack of supervision over the collection staff was in many instances responsible for the misappropriation of public money and for the poor results achieved in the realization of the municipal dues. This was particularly the case in Monghyr where the state of affairs reflects little credit on those concerned. They should consider at once what steps are necessary to place the work on a satisfactory basis and give effect to them as soon as possible. The system of rewards and punishments should be sufficient to ensure good collections on the part of the collecting staff, provided that those who are responsible for supervising the work display the requisite amount of interest.

The amounts remitted were heavy in the following municipalities:—Darbhanga (Rs. 6,154), Bhagalpur (Rs. 4,861), Gaya (Rs. 3,259), Patna (Rs. 3,109), Cuttack (Rs. 2,114), Monghyr (Rs. 1,661), Puri (Rs. 1,295), Purulia (Rs. 1,145)

PROTECTION.

and Ranchi (Rs. 1,055). The percentage of remissions on current demand was high in Jhalda (11·5), Jagadispur (11·4), Darbhanga (9·1), Forbesganj (8·01), Barh (6·1), Madhupur (5·09), Bhagalpur and Purulia (4·8), Lohardaga (4·7), Raghunathpur (4·5), Bihar (3·9), Hazaribagh (3·7), Bettiah and Cuttack (3·6), Sitamarhi (3·2), and Roserah (3·05). Several irregular remissions of latrine fees were granted by the Cuttack Municipality and in some instances the reasons for granting them were not recorded. In Jajpur and Ranchi also there were many instances of irregular remission. This points to the fact that cases are not thoroughly considered before orders are passed.

Income and expenditure.

160. The total receipts including opening balances amounted to Rs. 55,00,440, and the disbursements to Rs. 40,62,328, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 14,38,112. The main items of income and expenditure during 1913-14 and 1914-15 are compared below :—

	Income.		Increase (+) or Decrease (−).
	1913-14.	1914-15.	
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	13,36,311	21,69,419	+8,33,108
Municipal rates and taxes ...	14,19,201	14,66,015	+46,814
Realization under special Acts ...	38,744	41,941	+3,197
Revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation.	2,05,698	2,13,031	+7,333
Grants and contributions ...	20,62,326	10,85,949	−9,76,377
Miscellaneous	26,760	56,888	+30,128
Extraordinary and Debt ...	4,10,864	4,67,197	+56,333
TOTAL ...	54,99,904	55,00,440	+536

	Expenditure.		Increase (+) or Decrease (−)
	1913-14.	1914-15.	
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General administration and collection charges.	1,57,808	1,59,727	+1,919
Public safety	1,26,164	1,27,670	+1,506
Public health and convenience ...	23,26,447	23,75,225	+48,778
Public instruction	97,168	1,26,990	+29,822
Contributions	10,857	9,866	−991
Miscellaneous	88,313	1,09,965	+21,652
Extraordinary and Debt ...	5,21,624	11,52,885	+6,31,261
Closing balance	21,71,523	14,38,112	−7,33,411
TOTAL ...	54,99,904	55,00,440	+536

161. The fall of Rs. 7,33,411 in the aggregate closing balances is accounted for by the inclusion in the closing balance of the previous year of the grant of Rs. 6,00,000 made by Government to the Patna Municipality for its water-works scheme, which during the year under review was invested on fixed deposit.

INCOME.

162. The receipts from this source showed a net increase of Rs. 31,945, which was mainly shared by the Municipalities of Siwan (Rs. 8,717), Patna (Rs. 8,026), Bettiah (Rs. 7,854) and Bhagalpur (Rs. 4,816). The main reason for the increase in Siwan and Bettiah has already been explained. In the other cases the increase was merely the result of better collections. The decrease of Rs. 2,352 in the Dinapur Nizamat Municipality was due to the fact that in the year 1913-14 a large sum was realized as arrears on account of the tax on arable lands. **Tax on houses and lands.**

163. Of the twelve municipalities which derived revenue from this source, tolls on roads were levied in the Sambalpur Municipality only, while in the remaining eleven cases the figures represent the income from ferries. The increase of Rs. 2,242 in Patna was due to the realization of the arrears of 1913-14. **Tolls on roads and ferries.**

164. The income rose in Gaya (Rs. 15,606), Monghyr (Rs. 11,301), and Bhagalpur (Rs. 2,696) and fell in Arrah (Rs. 3,805) and Daltonganj (Rs. 26). The net result was an increase of Rs. 25,772 over the figures of the previous year. **Water-rate.**

165. The aggregate income under this head rose by Rs. 14,207 which was shared by all the Divisions. **Conservancy including scavenging and latrine rates.**

The proceeds from the trenching grounds amounted to Rs. 5,734 as against Rs. 3,933 in 1913-14, all the Divisions contributing to this satisfactory result.

At Forbesganj Part IX of the Act was extended during the year under review, but the fees were realized with effect from 1915-16. In Arrah and Patna Part IX could not be further extended owing to the difficulty of obtaining a staff of sweepers, but efforts in this direction are still being made.

166. The decrease of Rs. 9,76,377 in the aggregate is due mainly to the curtailment of Government grants. The municipalities which received large contributions from Government were Gaya (Rs. 1,50,000 for sanitary improvement schemes), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 50,000 for the sanitary improvement scheme), Bhagalpur (Rs. 23,000 for water-works and Rs. 24,000 for improvements to the Sadr Hospital), Ranchi (Rs. 18,000 for general improvements), Motihari (Rs. 10,000 for drainage), Purnea (Rs. 10,000 for improvement to the Sadr Hospital), Hazaribagh (Rs. 7,360 for drainage) and Patna (Rs. 2,500 for expenditure on a sanitary survey). **Grants from Provincial and Local Funds and contributions from private individuals.**

Babu Sukhraj Rai of Bhagalpur made a generous donation of Rs. 30,000 to the Bhagalpur Municipality, which was devoted towards the municipal water-works and the establishment of a municipal market.

EXPENDITURE.

167. The charges for general administration declined from Rs. 62,270 in 1913-14 to Rs. 61,841, while those for collection rose from Rs. 84,620 to Rs. 89,660. The outlay on general establishment was heavy in the following instances:— **Office and Collection Establishment.**

Tikari	... 19·9	per cent. of the total ordinary expenditure.	
Sambalpur	... 18·	ditto	ditto.
Khagaul	... 17·5	ditto	ditto.
Madhupur	... 16·3	ditto	ditto.

The Municipalities of Tikari and Sambalpur were noticed in this connection in last year's Report. The Municipal Commissioners should consider whether any reduction or more economical organization of their staff is possible.

PROTECTION.

Lighting.

168. The aggregate outlay was Rs. 3,406 in excess of the previous year. A considerable decrease (Rs. 3,406) occurred in Patna where no fresh incandescent lamps were put up and a number of those in use had to be discontinued owing to the difficulty of procuring mantles and other accessories on account of the war. The continued failure on the part of the Raghunathpur Municipality to provide street lights has engaged the attention of the Divisional Commissioner, who has promised a suitable contribution to the municipality, provided it works out a scheme showing how the recurring charges can be met.

Water-supply.

169. The aggregate capital outlay fell from Rs. 3,61,492 to Rs. 2,40,636 while that on "Establishment and Repairs, etc." rose from Rs. 69,699 to Rs. 1,25,265.

The water-works scheme for the Patna Municipality has assumed a new aspect owing to its combination with the project for the new Capital. Revised proposals are now under the consideration of the Municipal Commissioners. Meanwhile, further exploratory borings are being made to find out the best source of final supply. At Gaya the water-works were completed during the year. Borings in connection with the Chapra water-works are in progress. The work in Muzaffarpur has been much retarded owing to the difficulty of obtaining materials. The scheme for the improvement of the Bhagalpur water-works which was sanctioned by Government is at present under revision by the Sanitary Engineer. At Jamalpur the question of extending the railway water-supply in agreement with the railway authorities has not yet been settled. The proposals for the Sahibganj water-supply are under the consideration of the municipality in consultation with the Sanitary Engineer. In Puri as the experiment previously made is regarded as inconclusive, a fresh investigation is to be undertaken. In Daltonganj the revised scheme (for sections 2 and 3) is under the consideration of the Municipal Commissioners.

The provision of Rs. 1,00,000 made in the budget for the year under review for minor water-supply schemes was not spent, because no suitable scheme was prepared. Although it has not been possible to make a similar provision in 1915-16, a sum of Rs. 5,000 has been provided to meet any expenditure incurred by local bodies in carrying out preliminary experiments. The Sanitary Engineer has at present under examination minor water-works schemes for Tikari, Jehanabad, Sambalpur, Barh, Sitamarhi, Motihari, Samastipur, Balasore and Siwan.

Very little was done by the municipalities in the Patna and Chota Nagpur Divisions towards the improvement of the supply of water from wells. In the remaining three Divisions some progress was made. The systematic repair and maintenance of all wells used by the public is essential in those municipalities whose water-supply is derived from that source, and Commissioners of Divisions in passing their budgets should satisfy themselves that sufficient provision is regularly made for this purpose.

Drainage.

170. The net capital outlay on drainage projects and on "Establishment and Repairs, etc.", rose by Rs. 5,175 and Rs. 6,197, respectively. Large expenditure under the former head was incurred by the Municipalities of Gaya (Rs. 1,29,915), Monghyr (Rs. 44,374), Puri (Rs. 33,927), Arrah (Rs. 25,575) and Hazaribagh (Rs. 25,272).

In Arrah the tanks at Bahiara were extended with a view to providing an additional supply of water for flushing purposes. In Motihari work will be started very soon. A revised estimate for the Sahibganj Municipality, where work remained at a standstill for the greater part of the year under report on account of the failure of the contractor, is under the consideration of Government; at Kishanganj, where similar difficulty was experienced, a revised estimate has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 26,461. The question of recasting the drain-flushing scheme for the Monghyr Municipality is under the consideration of the Sanitary Engineer. The work of improving the main outfall drain at Deoghar is in progress. The detailed plans and estimates for the Madhupur project which were sanctioned by Government have been revised

owing to certain omissions in the structural details. The scheme for the Purnea Municipality has received the administrative approval of Government, and the detailed plans and estimates are under the consideration of the Municipal Commissioners. At Jamalpur a flushing scheme has been carried out, towards which the Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division contributed Rs. 4,000 from the allotment placed at his disposal. In Puri several surface drains and the construction of the western outfall sewer excluding the overflow channel were completed during the year. The outfall drain of block No. 1 has been constructed up to the junction with the Banki Mohan Nullah, but the undertaking of any comprehensive scheme must be postponed till the Pilgrim Committee's Report has been considered and money can be found. In Hazaribagh the heavy capital expenditure represents payments made to the contractors. The drainage scheme for the Patna Municipality and the sewerage scheme for the new Capital are still under preparation. Several other schemes have been prepared in rough by the Sanitary Engineer and submitted to the municipalities concerned for their approval.

171. The expenditure which rose in 39 and fell in sixteen municipalities showed a net increase of Rs. 43,152. The principal fluctuations are noted below :— **Conservancy including road-cleaning, road-watering and latrines.**

Increases.	Rs.	Decreases.	Rs.
Cuttack	28,968	Gaya	12,403
Hazaribagh	3,928	Muzaffarpur	3,056
Arrah	3,047	Ranchi	1,413
Kishanganj	2,851	Daltonganj	1,331
Jamalpur	2,719		

The increase in Cuttack is due to the expenditure of the special grants made by Government for the improvement of the conservancy services. The falling-off in Gaya is explained by heavy expenditure incurred under this head in the previous year.

Attention appears generally to have been paid by the municipalities to this branch of the administration and to the advice of the officers of the Sanitary Department. Since the close of the year these officers have been requested to draw up, for each municipality, a report showing the equipment and staff required for its efficient conservancy. It is hoped that in the preparation of these schemes the officers of the Sanitary Department will limit their immediate recommendations to proposals which are within the financial powers of the municipalities.

The conservancy scheme for the Monghyr Municipality has recently received the sanction of Government and grants aggregating Rs. 14,850 (*viz.*, Rs. 4,850 by Government and Rs. 10,000 by the Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division) have been made to the municipality in aid of the project. The Health Officer of Muzaffarpur is preparing a programme of the sanitary improvements required for the municipality. He also delivered courses of lectures on general sanitation and epidemic diseases in the schools and colleges. In the same municipality leaflets on plague and cholera were distributed to the public explaining the elementary principles of hygiene and sanitary science.

Special attention has been paid to the condition of slaughter-houses, for which type-designs have been prepared. The officers of the Sanitary Department should be consulted in every case before a slaughter-house is erected or subjected to expensive alterations.

As in the case of water-supply, only a well-considered programme of improvements in the conservancy of the towns and a determined effort to carry it to successful completion and to supervise it when completed will lead to efficiency in this respect. With the gradual appointment of Health Officers and trained Sanitary Inspectors, it will be easier for municipalities to deal with this question in a systematic and energetic manner.

PROTECTION.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

172. There was a net increase of Rs. 49,353 in the expenditure under this head. The principal changes were as follows :—

Increases.	Rs.	Decreases.	Rs.
Bhagalpur ...	... 26,588	Balasore ...	... 13,282
Purnea ...	... 18,634	Monghyr ...	... 7,606
Muzaffarpur ...	... 14,165	Chapra ...	... 7,270
Buxar ...	... 9,317	Jajpur ...	... 5,842
Lohardaga ...	... 6,189	Motihari ...	... 4,533
Puri ...	... 5,590		
Gaya ...	... 5,141		

The rise in Bhagalpur was due to the acquisition of land in connection with the scheme for remodelling the Sadr Hospital, towards which Government made a grant of Rs. 24,000 during the year, and to the construction of nurses' quarters, etc., at a cost of Rs. 2,065. The construction of Assistant Surgeon's quarters as well as improvements to the dispensary buildings for which Government made grants aggregating Rs. 20,000 led to the increased expenditure in Purnea. In Muzaffarpur the construction of a European and Anglo-Indian Ward in the Hospital and the rise in the price of medicines accounted for the increased outlay. The increase at Buxar was due to the construction and maintenance of the new dispensary. At Lohardaga it was due to the payment of bills to the contractor of the dispensary buildings, out of the Government grant of Rs. 15,553 made to the Municipality in the preceding year. Improvements in the hospital were responsible for the rise in expenditure in the Gaya Municipality.

Where a decline in expenditure occurred, it was due in almost every case to abnormal expenditure in the previous year.

The General Hospital at Bankipore is undergoing important development and expansion. Special wards for females and for Europeans are being added for which Government have sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 11,182 with effect from the date on which they are brought into use. Non-recurring grants of Rs. 8,000 for the equipment of the two new wards and of Rs. 1,500 for the new out-door dispensary have also been sanctioned. Nearly three lakhs of rupees have now been spent by Government towards the improvement of this hospital and recurring grants have been made aggregating Rs. 29,000. The question of converting it into a state institution is at present under consideration The Arrah hospital has been transferred to the District Board and the municipality contributes a fixed sum of Rs. 4,200 a year towards it up-keep. Liberal grants were made by the Commissioner of the Patna Division out of the allotments placed at his disposal for replacing old and obsolete equipment and for other improvements in the hospitals of the Division. Quarters for nurses were constructed at Darbhanga and a female ward at Sitamarhi. The hospital building at Siwan was repaired and extended. At Forbesganj the dispensary previously managed by the District Board of Purnea, was transferred to the municipality with effect from the year under review. An annual grant of Rs. 1,200 was sanctioned by Government to augment the resources of the Dumka Dispensary.

Plague and other epidemic disease charges.

173. The municipalities in the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions incurred no expenditure under this head. The Municipalities of Gaya (Rs. 9,951), Patna (Rs. 4,328), Bhagalpur (Rs. 4,104), Monghyr (Rs. 2,446) and Chapra (Rs. 1,374) incurred the bulk of the expenditure which rose by Rs. 7,122 in the aggregate.

In Chapra, Siwan and Darbhanga the number of persons inoculated was 69, 161, and 131 against 504, 420, and 1,129, respectively, in 1913-14.

Public works.

174. The aggregate expenditure under "Establishment", "Building and repairs" and "Roads and stores" increased in the Tirhut and Chota Nagpur Divisions and fell elsewhere, resulting in a net decline of Rs. 31,439. The

decrease of Rs. 34,956 in Patna was chiefly due to the fact that while Rs. 20,000 was contributed by Government towards the up-keep of certain roads, the corresponding grant in the previous year had amounted to Rs. 42,000. In Bhagalpur Rs. 11,032 only could be spent against Rs. 26,957 in the previous year, owing to the failure of the contractors to supply the full quantity of road metal. The Gaya and Ranchi Municipalities purchased steam rollers. PROTECTION.

175. There was a net increase of Rs. 29,822, the bulk of which represents expenditure from the grants made by the Local Government. The Patna Municipality spent the largest amount (Rs. 7,237) on primary schools, followed by Darbhanga (Rs. 5,886) and Bhagalpur (Rs. 5,000). It is satisfactory to note that all the municipalities in the Province spent more than 3·2 per cent. of their ordinary income on primary education. **Public instruction.**

176. The outstanding loan liabilities of the thirteen municipalities who have borrowed money from Government amounted to Rs. 8,02,224 on the 31st March 1915. During the year the Ranchi Municipality received a loan of Rs. 5,000 for the construction of a beef market. **Loans.**

Twenty-nine municipalities as against 21 in the previous year had outstanding bills at the close of the year amounting to Rs. 41,230, but in no case did the liabilities exceed the closing balance.

177. A case of embezzlement by the clerk of the Hajipur Dispensary was detected and the offender was convicted. The case which occurred at Sitamarhi last year ended in the conviction of the delinquent. The case instituted against the tax-daroga of Madhubani is still pending, the accused having absconded. Six cases of embezzlement were discovered during the last audit of the accounts of the Monghyr Municipality. In five cases the offenders are the tax-collecting sarkars and in one the late English mohurrir of the municipality. Some prosecutions have been instituted and a portion of the money recovered. The Commissioner calls attention to the fact that the officiating tax-daroga does not understand Hindi, the language in which the books of the collecting officers are kept. This state of things is far from creditable to the municipality. At Deoghur the tax-daroga and the collecting sarkar misappropriated some money that had been collected. In Puri the tax-daroga was convicted of an embezzlement. Serious irregularities in the accounts were also discovered at Muzaffarpur and Lalganj. **Audit of accounts and embezzlemnnts.**

The Examiner of Local Accounts is clearly of opinion that except in two cases all the irregularities were rendered possible by the omission to enforce the checks provided in the Account Rules Nos. 19, 58 and 44 (Appendix A). He remarks that "it is the exception rather than the rule, to find that this examination is effectively carried out and in many offices where the check is exercised it is done in such a perfunctory way as to be quite useless." In certain cases which have come to his notice "this failure to exercise proper supervision over the collection of accounts appears to be due rather to a lack of appreciation of the importance of this supervision, than to want of time and opportunity to carry it out."

Contrary to the provisions of section 69 A of the Municipal Act the Municipalities of Revelganj and Kendrapara drew upon the Dispensary Fund in order to meet expenditure debitable to the General Fund. This is a serious irregularity.

The maintenance of the Register of Lands prescribed by Rule 91A of the Municipal Account Rules is an old difficulty, and it has not, except with rare exceptions, been completely written up to date, in spite of repeated audit objections. The completion of the Register is a matter of time, but municipalities should endeavour to write it up by degrees. Where no record exists as to how the land came into the possession of the municipality it is often possible to record the fact that possession has been recognized during the survey and settlement operations. Demarcation of such lands should proceed as funds become available, since encroachment on roadside lands is otherwise difficult to stop.

Since the close of the year the Account Rules have been amended so as to simplify the audit procedure. This amendment was universally welcomed, and it is hoped that it will tend to the prompt and satisfactory disposal of audit reports. The desirability of co-operating with the audit officers in attaining this object has been impressed on all local bodies.

Amendment of the Municipal Act.

178. The question of the amendment of the Municipal Act is still under the consideration of Government. A large number of proposed amendments have now been received and it is probable that legislation will take the form of a new and not of an amending Act.

The Puri Lodging House Act.

[Report on the working of the Puri Lodging House Act during the year 1914-15.]

Extent of application.

179. The Act was in force in the same towns and places as in the year 1913-14.

Number of licensed Lodging Houses and lodgers.

180. In Gaya, the number of licensed lodging houses fell from 615 in 1913-14 to 596 in the year under review. In Deoghar, there was a small increase both in the number of lodging houses and of lodgers, the number of houses being 65 with accommodation for 2,922 persons against 64 with accommodation for 2,777 lodgers in the previous year. In the Orissa Division, the number of lodging houses and lodgers fell from 896 and 33,193 in 1913-14 to 374 and 16,933 respectively. The decrease chiefly occurred in Puri as the year was inauspicious for pilgrimage.

Offences under the Act.

181. There were 199 prosecutions under the Act during the year and the amount of fines realized was Rs. 3,295 against Rs. 5,810 in the previous year.

Income.

182. The total income of the lodging house funds during the year (excluding the opening balance of Rs. 1,01,554) was Rs. 67,802 against Rs. 1,89,322 in the preceding year. The total income of the Gaya fund amounted to Rs. 35,907 against Rs. 1,41,408 in the year 1913-14. The large amount of the receipts last year was due to the inclusion of the loan of Rs. 1,00,000 sanctioned by Government. In the Orissa Division, the total income from all sources fell from Rs. 46,048 in 1913-14 to Rs. 29,998, showing a decrease of Rs. 16,050, which was shared by all centres except Chandbali town. In Puri, there was a decrease in receipts under the head "Fees for issue of Health Officer's certificates". This decrease was due to the falling off in the number of pilgrims visiting Puri.

Expenditure.

183. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 74,877 against Rs. 2,06,318. The large increase in Gaya in the preceding year was due to the loan of Rs. 1,00,000 to the Gaya Municipality for sanitary improvement of the town and other expenditure. The decrease under the head "Miscellaneous" in Puri was due to the fact that a large amount was paid in the preceding year as land acquisition charges for the Dooli Chand and Mahabir rest-houses, whereas no such charges were incurred during the year under report. The expenditure shows an increase in other districts, notably in Cuttack, where it was devoted to the sinking of wells and contributions to hospitals and dispensaries. The year closed with a total balance of Rs. 94,480 against Rs. 1,01,554 in the previous year.

Health and Sanitation.

184. In Gaya, the year was on the whole a healthy one. There was no case of plague and the mortality from cholera was slight. There were no deaths in lodging houses. In the Orissa Division, the total number of deaths was 92 against 222 in the preceding year. Every effort was made to keep the road and the lodging houses clean. The wells in Cuttack and Balasore were all cleaned and treated with permanganate of potash. In Puri, the condition of the lodging houses was improved and the construction of pucca drains in some parts of the town was completed during the year. The water-works project undertaken by the Municipality is still in an experimental stage and further

experiments will be carried out to ascertain the water-supply available in the dry weather. Temporary sanitary arrangements to supply pure drinking water and accommodation for the pilgrims during the Car and Dol festivals were made during the year. Ambulance cars and stretchers with bearers were engaged during the festival for the prompt removal of cholera patients to the hospitals. The disinfecting establishment was maintained throughout the year for disinfecting public and private houses including lodging houses. The establishment for the Swetganga Pump was maintained throughout the year for flushing the two main drains in Puri. The general health of the town of Deoghar was good. Special measures were taken during the festivals to prevent the occurrence of cholera, plague and other diseases.

District Boards.

[The Reports from the Commissioners of Divisions on the working of District Boards in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part VIII—Local Funds.]

185. The number of District and Local Boards in the Province remained unchanged during the year, *viz.*, 18 and 41, respectively. The number of Unions rose from nine to twelve owing to the formation of three new Unions at Begusarai in Monghyr, at Dhanbad in Manbhum, and at Khurda in Puri. **Number of District and Local Boards and of Union Committees.**

186. The number of meetings held by the District Boards, including the District Council of Sambalpur, was 288 against 301 in the previous year, of which eleven proved abortive for want of a quorum. All the District Boards with one exception, met at least once a month. The average percentage of attendance of official members varied between 37 in Patna and 89 in Saran and that of non-officials between 33 in Sambalpur and 84 in Manbhum. **District Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members.**

187. The number of meetings rose from 474 to 491 and there was a substantial decrease in the number of meetings that proved abortive. Only six Local Boards failed to meet once a month against fourteen in the previous year. The number of members rose from 493 to 499 owing to an increase in the number of members of the Nawada and Aurangabad Local Boards. The Sadr Local Boards in Cuttack and Balasore, and the Buxar, Bhadrak and Khurda Boards continue to be defaulters in regard to the number of meetings held. The two Zamindari Local Boards in Sambalpur, for the first time for several years, held the prescribed minimum number of meetings. The three Local Boards in Monghyr were reconstituted during the year. **Local Boards. Number of meetings and attendance of members.**

188. Twelve Unions were in working order during the year. Their aggregate income from all sources amounted to Rs. 25,522 against Rs. 16,601 in 1913-14, and their expenditure rose from Rs. 14,051 to Rs. 20,857. In the majority of cases contributions from District Boards constituted the main source of income. Special taxes for sanitary purposes levied by seven Union Committees yielded a sum of Rs. 8,877 against Rs. 4,363 in the previous year. Such taxation has an educative value and it is desirable to introduce it whenever circumstances permit. The activities of the Unions were mainly confined to water supply and conservancy, and the repair of village roads. The Union Committees in the Tirhut Division as well as the one at Dhanbad in Manbhum also looked after primary schools within their jurisdiction. Proposals for the establishment of Unions at the following places have since been sanctioned:—at Chainpur and Koath in Shahabad, at Jhajha in Monghyr, at Supaul and Madhipura in Bhagalpur, at Araria in Purnea, at Gumla and Bundu in Ranchi, at Garhwa and Hussenabad in Palamau, and at Chas in Manbhum. **Union Committees.**

189. There was an increase of over 19 lakhs in the total receipts of the District Boards which amounted to Rs. 1,17,33,960 against Rs. 97,71,158 in the previous year. This was made up of opening balances amounting to Rs. 34,29,088 and an aggregate income from all sources of Rs. 83,04,872. The total expenditure was Rs. 88,11,285 against Rs. 63,42,071 in the previous year, an increase of over Rs. 24 lakhs. The year closed with a credit balance of **Financial Results.**

PROTECTION.

Rs. 29,22,675. The income and expenditure under the main heads of account during the past two years are compared below :—

	1913-14.		1914-15.	
	Amount.	Percentage of total income.	Amount.	Percentage of total income.
1	2	3	4	5
INCOME.	Rs.		Rs.	
Land Revenue	2,264	·02	6,025	·072
Provincial Rates	48,19,898	57·01	51,16,985	61·6
Interest	22,940	·2	29,923	·36
Law and Justice	19,890	·2	23,718	·28
Police (Pounds)	2,23,578	2·6	2,24,787	2·7
Education	9,36,801	11·08	9,01,717	10·8
Medical	66,801	·7	57,954	·69
Scientific and Minor Departments	16,237	·19	13,878	·16
Receipts in aid of compassionate allowance.	...	...	272	·003
Stationery and Printing ...	3,306	·03	4,135	·05
Miscellaneous	76,389	·9	26,473	·31
Railways	20,464	·2	1,825	·01
Civil Works (including ferries)...	13,26,508	15·6	9,59,514	11·5
Loans	75,000	·8	1,00,000	1·2
Deposits and Advances ...	8,43,390	9 9	8,38,166	10·09
Total ...	84,53,466	...	83,04,872	...

	1913-14.		1914-15.	
	Amount.	Percentage of total expenditure.	Amount.	Percentage of total expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
EXPENDITURE.	Rs.		Rs.	
Land Revenue	101	·001	...	...
Interest and Debt	13,359	·2	13,063	·14
Administration	1,50,383	2·3	1,78,065	2·02
Police (Pounds)	13,580	·2	28,855	·32
Education	11,57,938	18·2	14,33,305	16·2
Medical	4,43,425	6·9	5,68,860	6·4
Scientific and Minor Departments	70,785	1·1	90,878	1·03
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.	56,894	·8	57,898	·65
Stationery and Printing ...	31,858	·5	40,935	·46
Miscellaneous	20,671	·3	22,311	·25
Famine Relief	5,706	·08	1,039	·011
Railways	58,319	·9	17,932	·203
Civil Works (Public Works) ...	37,61,328	59·3	53,76,488	61·01
Repayment of Loans ...	63,429	1·00	22,002	·24
Deposits and Advances ...	4,94,295	7·7	9,59,654	10·8
Total ...	63,42,071	...	88,11,285	...

INCOME.

190. The receipts rose from Rs. 2,264 to Rs. 6,025 owing chiefly to increased receipts in the Chota Nagpur Division. **Land Revenue.**

191. Though the receipts showed a net decrease of Rs. 79,368 in the Patna, Bhagalpur and Orissa Divisions, the total income rose by Rs. 2,97,087, the Tirhut Division alone accounting for an increase of Rs. 2,91,725. The marked increases in Muzaffarpur (Rs. 1,74,389) and Darbhanga (Rs. 88,073) were due to revaluation proceedings and to better realizations. The decrease in Gaya was due to the failure of the Tikari Estate to pay the *kists* of January and March 1915. **Provincial Rates.**

192. The number of pounds rose from 1,370 to 1,377 and the total receipts from Rs. 2,23,578 to Rs. 2,24,787. The increases occurred mainly in the Tirhut and Chota Nagpur Divisions and were due to better settlements, realization of arrear rents, and sale of unclaimed stray cattle. There were decreases in Shahabad, Champaran, Bhagalpur, Purnea, Manbhum and Cuttack. **Pounds.**

193. Though there was a net decrease of Rs. 18,729 in the Bhagalpur, Chota Nagpur and Orissa Divisions, the total receipts under this head rose from Rs. 2,68,504 to Rs. 2,74,642. The increase of Rs. 12,352 in Muzaffarpur was due to the fact that abnormally low rents were obtained in 1913-14 owing to the failure of crops, while in the year under report the rents obtained were again normal. The system of triennial settlement in Saran continues to work satisfactorily. **Ferries.**

194. A sum of Rs. 63,000 was placed at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting the resources of the District Boards and Road Committees, the distribution by districts being left to the discretion of the Commissioners; and an aggregate contribution of Rs. 36,425 was made for the improvement of water supply in rural areas. The total grants made by the Local Government to District Boards in 1914-15 for educational purposes amounted to Rs. 8,58,013. The following grants were made for specific purposes:—Rs. 46,800 to Ranchi for bridging the Lohardaga-Ghagra and Ghagra-Bishunpur roads, Rs. 49,758 to Palamau for the reconstruction of the Ranchi-Daltonganj road, Rs. 39,500 to Cuttack towards the construction of a bridge over the Rana river, and Rs. 12,000 to Sambalpur to supplement the resources of the District Council. **Contributions.**

195. A loan of Rs. 50,000 was taken by the District Board of Muzaffarpur for bridging projects. A loan of the same amount was taken by the Ranchi Board for metalling the Lohardaga-Ghagra road and for the construction of a Dâk Bungalow. **Loans.**

EXPENDITURE.

196. There was an increase of Rs. 27,682 in the total expenditure which rose from Rs. 1,50,383 to Rs. 1,78,065, the increase being shared by all the District Boards except Muzaffarpur and Palamau. In the Patna Division it was due to an increase in the number and salaries of the staff owing to additional work as a result of the surrender of the Public Works Cess. In the other Divisions it was due chiefly to periodical increments in the pay of the employés of the Boards, and to grain compensation allowance. **Administration.**

197. The expenditure on Education rose from Rs. 11,57,938 to Rs. 14,33,305, showing an increase of Rs. 2,75,367, which was shared by all the District Boards except Manbhum. The increased expenditure was due to the opening of new schools, higher stipends to *gurus*, enhanced pay of teachers of Middle Vernacular Schools, more liberal grants to aided schools, purchase of furniture and construction of school buildings. The decrease in Manbhum (Rs. 5,208) is explained by the fact that in the previous year a large sum was spent on miscellaneous purposes and the supply of furniture to various schools. **Education.**

The number of Middle Schools maintained by District Boards rose from 98 to 102 and the cost of maintenance from Rs. 78,549 to Rs. 1,29,168. There was an increase of 30 in the number of primary schools maintained by the Boards, on which Rs. 55,185 was spent, but the vast majority of primary schools belong to the "aided" category. The total sum paid by the Boards as

PROTECTION.

grants-in-aid amounted to Rs. 10,55,360 against Rs. 8,87,720 in the preceding year.

It has again been necessary to call the attention of Commissioners to the minimum standard prescribed for the educational expenditure of each Board and the apparent general failure to attain to it. A report has been called for on the subject, and Government have explained that the amount by which the actual expenditure in 1913-14 and 1914-15 has fallen short of the prescribed minimum must be regarded as earmarked for educational expenditure in subsequent years. Commissioners have been requested to satisfy themselves that these orders are complied with when passing the District Board Budgets for 1916-17.

Special Schools.

198. The three Dom Technical Schools hitherto maintained by the District Board of Saran were closed on the recommendation of the Inspector of Technical Schools, and arrangements have been made for the education of the Dom boys in the local Primary Schools. The number of special schools wholly maintained by District Boards fell in consequence from four to one. There has been no change in the number of industrial schools aided by District Boards. The Chitarpur Weaving School at Hazaribagh was closed, as it could not support itself, while an Industrial School at Bhadrak in Balasore was given a grant-in-aid. Several Boards continued to award scholarships for students attending the Bihar School of Engineering, the Veterinary College at Belgachia, the Government Weaving Institute at Serampore, and other similar institutions.

Medical.

199. The expenditure rose from Rs. 4,43,425 to Rs. 5,68,860. The increase of Rs. 1,25,435 was shared by all the District Boards except Monghyr and Puri. The decrease of Rs. 3,417 in Monghyr is due to the additional grants sanctioned for the district not being drawn by the Civil Surgeon during the year. In Puri the decrease of Rs. 902 is attributed to a special contribution of Rs. 1,000 having been given in 1913-14 towards the construction of the Cottage Ward of the Puri Pilgrim Hospital.

The number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards rose from 112 to 128 and that of aided dispensaries from 72 to 74. Three new dispensaries were opened in Purnea, two in Manbhum, and one each by the District Boards of Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Palamau and Balasore. The management of the Ramnagar Dispensary in Champaran, of the Gopalganj Dispensary in Saran and of the Bousi Dispensary in Bhagalpur was taken over by the Boards concerned. There is considerable scope for organizing on more systematic lines the arrangements for dealing with outbreaks of epidemic disease in the interior of districts, and the question of issuing instructions on the subject for the guidance of the Boards is now under consideration. The practice of deputing medical officers to visit *hats* on market days so as to provide medical relief to localities which are remote from dispensaries, has been adopted by many of the Boards. The reports regarding the sale of quinine show that the popularity of the new "treatments" is not yet fully established. A noticeable decrease in the consumption of quinine occurred in Chota Nagpur and the Commissioner is taking action in the matter.

The attention of Commissioners has been drawn to the general failure to attain the prescribed minimum expenditure on "Medical" and a report has been called for.

Sanitation.

200. The expenditure rose from Rs. 54,231 to Rs. 82,916, showing an increase of Rs. 28,685, which was shared by all the Divisions except Orissa. The most noticeable increase occurred in the districts of Champaran and Manbhum where the District Boards spent Rs. 7,836 and Rs. 10,422, respectively, against Rs. 501 and Rs. 4,251 during the preceding year. The expenditure of Rs. 657 in Shahabad was wholly inadequate. The sanitary work done by the Boards included the disinfection of wells, the cleaning of villages and sanitary arrangements at fairs. The disinfection of wells through the agency of the Police, which was recommended last year, was tried with success by the District Boards of Saran and Muzaffarpur, and no complaint has been made against it. The question of framing rules under section 138 (*n*) of the Act to regulate the powers and duties of District Boards and Sanitation Committees in regard to sanitation is engaging the attention of Government.

PROTECTION.

201. The total expenditure under this head was Rs. 72,347 against Rs. 53,538 during the previous year. The increase was marked in the districts of Gaya, Shahabad, Saran, Champaran and Sambalpur. The reports show that much useful work was done by the Veterinary Assistants, both stationary and itinerant, and that the utility of the Department was fully maintained. The question of improving their pay and prospects is still under consideration. A few Boards maintain bulls for breeding purposes and a few others assist co-operative societies to do so. The improvement of the local breed of cattle is a matter to which Government attach great importance. **Veterinary charges.**

202. There was a decrease of Rs. 1,649 in the total pensionary charges of District Boards as compared with the previous year, owing to the non-payment of a half-yearly instalment of the pension of a retired District Engineer of Patna. **Pension.**

203. The outlay under this head fell from Rs. 5,706 to Rs. 1,039, the expenditure being confined to Cuttack. **Famine Relief.**

204. The expenditure fell from Rs. 58,319 to Rs. 17,932. This sum represents the amount which the District Board of Shahabad had to pay to Messrs. Martin and Company, to make up the deficit in the guaranteed interest of 4 per cent. on the capital outlay in respect of the Arrah-Sassaram Light Railway. The Board have undertaken a carefully considered scheme for the construction of feeder roads to this line, and it is hoped that the Railway will in a few years prove a source of remuneration. In Patna the Bakhtiarpur-Bihar Railway has already done so. No new railway project was taken in hand during the year. **Railways and Tramways.**

205. There was an increase of Rs. 16,15,160 in the total expenditure as compared with the preceding year. The increase was shared by all the District Boards except Patna. The largest increase occurred in Darbhanga(Rs. 2,75,833) and the smallest in Puri (Rs. 6,273). The decrease in Patna is chiefly due to the fact that in the preceding year a large sum was spent on repairs in consequence of the damage done by the floods of 1913. The expenditure under "Communications—Original Works" and "Repairs" was Rs. 11,26,856 and Rs. 2,06,515, respectively, in excess of that incurred in the previous year. **Civil Works.**

The total mileage of metalled and unmetalled roads increased from 1,532 and 13,936 to 1,620 and 14,076, respectively, while that of village roads declined from 8,407 to 8,362. The average cost of maintenance per mile was Rs. 444, Rs. 54·3 and Rs. 18 2, respectively, for metalled, unmetalled and village roads.

The increased expenditure under "Communications—Original Works" is most noticeable in the Tirhut and Orissa Divisions where the expenditure rose from Rs. 4,27,340 and Rs. 66,894 to Rs. 9,44,133 and Rs. 1,51,325, respectively. Except in the Chota Nagpur Division very little has been done regarding the improvement of inter-district communications and roads on the boundaries of districts.

206. The Gaya District Board completed the feeder road from the Gaya-Shiuganj road to the Kastha Railway Station. An expenditure of Rs. 40,326 was incurred by Shahabad on the Piru-Sikrahta and Piru-Koath feeder roads to the Arrah-Sassaram Light Railway. In Saran a sum of Rs. 1,177 was spent on the improvement of the Susamusa feeder road, the cost of maintenance of the existing roads being Rs. 2,195. An expenditure of Rs. 16,305 was incurred in completing two feeder roads to Gokhula station in the Bettiah subdivision which should open out a very inaccessible tract of country. The District Board of Muzaffarpur spent Rs. 5,570 on the completion of the Dholi Station road and on the metalling of the Chumrehra road. In Monghyr and Bhagalpur Rs. 21,429 and Rs. 35,072, respectively, were spent on feeder roads. An expenditure of Rs. 77,835 was incurred by the District Board of Purnea on the Ganges-Darjeeling road. The District Boards of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Palamau and Manbhum spent Rs. 5,040, Rs. 3,957, Rs. 3,943 and Rs. 33,770, respectively, on the maintenance and construction of such roads, the expenditure in Ranchi being incurred on the completion of the feeder roads to the Piska and Nagjua Railway Stations on the Ranchi-Lohardaga extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. In Cuttack, fifteen feeder roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. 9,636, **Railway feeder roads.**

while in Balasore the construction of the Kenduapada feeder road was completed during the year.

Water-supply and water-works.

207. The total expenditure for "Original works" and "Repairs" rose from Rs. 1,26,830 to Rs. 2,01,492, the increase being shared by all the Divisions. The increases were marked in the districts of Gaya (Rs. 13,214 against Rs. 5,410), Bhagalpur (Rs. 28,100 against Rs. 15,169), Purnea (Rs. 9,382 against Rs. 3,324), Ranchi (Rs. 7,007 against Rs. 2,304) and Manbhum (Rs. 25,786 against Rs. 11,503). The Districts of Palamau (Rs. 3,154) and Sambalpur (Rs. 1,818) alone failed to spend Rs. 5,000, the minimum sum fixed by Government on the improvement of rural water-supply. This failure is noticeable, as it has now occurred for two years in succession. Some progress has been made by District Boards in taking over private wells in the Patna, Tirhut and Bhagalpur Divisions.

Drainage.

208. The expenditure under this sub-head rose from Rs. 14,887 to Rs. 44,153, the increase being contributed chiefly by the District Boards of Shahabad (Rs. 10,000), Saran (Rs. 6,533), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 5,208), Darbhanga (Rs. 2,822), and Manbhum (Rs. 4,342). In the case of Shahabad and Darbhanga there was no expenditure during the preceding year: the amounts during the year under review were spent, respectively, on a contribution to the Arrah Municipality for drainage works and on the construction of masonry drains in three bazars.

Arboriculture.

209. The total outlay under this sub-head showed an increase of Rs. 3,761. The largest expenditure occurred in Gaya (Rs. 7,952), and the smallest (Rs. 852) in Sambalpur. Three Boards, Shahabad, Ranchi and Puri, and the District Council of Sambalpur, failed to spend the minimum amount fixed by Government in Circular letter No. 11641-45M., dated the 21st October 1913. The District Boards of Gaya and Darbhanga each deputed a subordinate to the Sibpur Botanical Garden for training in arboriculture. The importance of this expenditure is not sufficiently realized. Not only does an avenue of trees add greatly to the comfort of passengers, but it eventually proves a valuable source of income.

Closing balance.

210. Though there was a decrease in the aggregate closing balances of District Boards excluding deposits from Rs. 25,46,108 to Rs. 24,68,807, the actual balances were generally far in excess of the prescribed minimum. The excesses of Rs. 2,56,590 in Darbhanga and of Rs. 1,21,753 in Champaran are specially noticeable. The heavy balances were due chiefly to the absence of a definite programme for the utilization of the allotments under several heads.

Volunteering.

211. The undermentioned Volunteer Corps were in existence in this Province during 1914-15 and the figures show their state on the 31st March 1915:—

Designation.	Enrolled strength.	Efficient.
1	2	3
1. Bihar Light Horse	500	498
2. St. Michael's School Cadet Corps	158	136
3. Chota Nagpur Light Horse	757	670
Total ...	1,415	1,304

The corresponding figures for last year showed 1,085 Volunteers, of whom 1,011 were efficient.

Marine.

[Administration Report of the Orissa Ports for the year 1914-1915 and Report of the Bengal Steam Boiler Commission for 1914-1915.]

The Ports of Orissa.

Finance.

212. The total receipts from all sources during the year under review amounted to Rs. 4,475 only as compared with Rs. 12,938 in the previous year, while expenditure remained practically stationary, being Rs. 12,917 against Rs. 13,199 in 1913-1914. The Port Fund closed with a debit balance of Rs. 8,442 which had to be made good by a grant from Provincial Revenues.

Trade.

213. There were no imports to the ports of Puri and Cuttack, while in Balasore imports amounted to Rs. 19,57,157 against Rs. 29,83,632 in the previous year. The marked decrease in the export trade from all the ports was due partly to poor harvest in certain districts, but mainly to the general depression of trade in consequence of the war. The total value of trade, imports and exports, fell from Rs. 88,09,969 to Rs. 43,36,165.

Arrivals and departures of vessels.

214. The total number of vessels entering the ports during the year was 142 with an aggregate tonnage of 58,098 against 188 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 143,338 in the previous year. The total number of vessels that left the ports was 146 with an aggregate tonnage of 59,078 against 179 with an aggregate tonnage of 142,019 in 1913-1914.

Inspections.

215. An arrangement was made with the Government of Bengal that the Port Officer of Calcutta should continue to inspect the Orissa Ports and Lights. This proved to be impossible in the year under review as the Port Officer could not leave Calcutta in the absence of a Deputy Port Officer. The Ports were, however, inspected several times by the Port Officer of Cuttack and Balasore.

Health of the Ports.

216. The health of the ports was fairly good throughout the year.

Steam Boiler Commission.

Administration of the Act.

217. The administration of the Bengal Steam Boilers and Prime Movers Act of 1879 in those places in Bihar and Orissa in which the Act is in force continues to remain in the hands of the Boiler Commission under the Government of Bengal.

Inspection of boilers.

218. The number of boilers inspected in the districts of this Province was 1,709 against 1,113 in 1913-14 and the fees realised on account of such inspections amounted to Rs. 29,875-8-0 against Rs. 19,681 in the preceding year. The increase was due to an increase in the number of new boilers inspected during the year and to the fees for some of the inspections of the previous year having been accounted for in 1914-15. The proportion of the expenditure incurred in the inspection of these boilers was Rs. 24,463, which left a surplus of Rs. 5,412 to the credit of Government.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agriculture.

[The Report of the Agricultural Department in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending the 30th June 1915.]

Organisation.

219. In consequence of the reorganisation of the Department sanctioned by the Secretary of State, two additional Deputy Directors and one Assistant Director of Agriculture were appointed during the year. The Deputy Directors were posted to Ranchi and Cuttack. The Local Government also appointed a second Assistant Director on probation for a year and posted him to the Bhagalpur Division to work in co-operation with the staff of the Agricultural College. The main feature of the scheme, which will be given effect to gradually as funds are available and qualified candidates are forthcoming to fill up the sanctioned posts in the staff of Inspectors, is to provide for each tract of the Province possessing distinctive conditions an expert Agriculturist trained in Europe with an Inspector working under him in each district. A farm for experiment and demonstration exists at the headquarters of each Deputy Director, one at Ranchi having been opened towards the end of the year, and it is intended ultimately to provide each Inspector with a small demonstration and seed farm at or near the headquarters of his district. As a demonstration farm at headquarters is by itself insufficient to attract the attention of cultivators in any number to the latest improvements, a scheme has been sanctioned as an experimental measure for training on the Divisional farms a number of *Kamdars* or men of the ordinary cultivating classes with a view to sending them afterwards into the districts to demonstrate improved methods and instruments as suitable for the particular locality. This scheme will be started on a small scale at once. With these means at their disposal the Deputy Directors will be able to keep in touch with the District Agricultural Associations and Co-operative Societies and to study on the spot in the course of their tours the special agricultural conditions and practice of their Divisions. The knowledge so gained will be of value to them in working the farms at their own headquarters on the right lines and will at the same time put them in direct contact with individuals and agencies whose services can be utilized in spreading the lessons which the Department is ready to teach. Some time may, however, elapse before full effect can be given to these arrangements and any marked effect on the agriculture of the Province become noticeable. Some additional delay will be caused by the fact that the recent additions to the staff of the Department have been counterbalanced by the deputation to the Indian Army Reserve of Officers of two of the experts, Messrs. Woodhouse and McGowan, from the Sabour College, to the great detriment of experimental research there.

Agricultural Stations.

220. The new Agricultural station at Ranchi was opened towards the close of the year in charge of Mr. Dobbs, while the Bettiah farm, which could not easily be fitted into the new frame work of the Department was closed and handed over to the Salvation Army for the support of the Doms of the Barwat Settlement. The proposal to establish a separate sugarcane selecting station in Tirhut and to appoint an additional Deputy Director to be placed in charge of that station and the work of the Division in general was further considered during the year, but as it will involve considerable initial and recurring expenditure as well as the recruitment of an officer from England, its execution has had to be postponed to more favourable times.

Agricultural Education.

221. The second Diploma Examination of the College at Sabour was held during the year and six out of the seven boys, who appeared at the examination, obtained the diploma. The nature and duration of the courses were carefully

considered before he left by Mr. Woodhouse, who proposed to reduce the three years' course to two in conformity with the arrangement in force in other agricultural colleges in India, and definite proposals on the subject from the Director of Agriculture are now awaited. The system of agricultural education is closely connected with another problem which demands urgent solution—how to find sufficient trained incumbents for the new posts which are in process of creation. Hitherto the inhabitants of Bihar and Orissa have shown little inclination to avail themselves of the education provided at Sabour or to compete for the posts offered, so that the staff of the Department has necessarily to be filled up by persons not resident in the Province, and even of these the supply available for employment has hitherto been inadequate. It has, therefore, been decided to offer a few scholarships annually to suitable candidates, while two scholarships also will, when funds permit, be thrown open to the sons of substantial landholders, who have not been attracted by the short vernacular courses specially provided for them, in order to encourage the scientific management by the landlords of the lands in their immediate possession.

Research and experiments.

222. No new line was struck out in Research during the year. An examination of the soil of the Khurda Government Estate in Puri by the Agricultural Chemist has led to the initiation of an active campaign in favour of green manuring, which the Department with the increased staff at its disposal hope to be able to press to a successful conclusion. The distribution of Pusa wheat, which is expected to revolutionize the cultivation of this crop in Bihar, was only possible on a small scale owing to the lack of seed, and the comparative failure of the crop in 1914-15 will further delay this important movement. The Bengal system of checking the area under jute and of forecasting the outturn of the crop through the Panchayets was introduced into Purnea. Whether the results justify the continuance of a system which involves so much labour will be decided on receipt of a special report from the Director of Agriculture and the local officers after the completion of the operations for the current season.

Fisheries.

223. During the year the Deputy Director of Fisheries published a comprehensive report dealing with the work carried on since his appointment at the beginning of 1912 and describing the directions which the operations should take in future. In Bihar and Orissa, where the fisheries are not of the same importance as in Bengal, his activities have been directed chiefly to carp and hilsa culture, and research has been facilitated by the construction of a steam launch. The survey of the fishery rights in the main rivers was completed during the year and disclosed an unsatisfactory system of repeated sub-leasing which largely accounts for the poverty of the fishermen and the high price of fish. It is proposed to meet the situation by starting co-operative societies and by arranging, where possible, for the direct lease of fisheries to organised bodies of fishermen. The Chilka lake was examined in detail with a view to ascertaining its capacity and to introducing improved methods of fishing, but under neither head was the result promising; an attempt is, however, now being made to exploit the fisheries by private agency.

The arrangement under which the Province of Bihar and Orissa shares a single expert Deputy Director with Bengal still continues, but it has recently been decided to ask for a second officer who, after some years' training as Assistant to the Deputy Director, may be expected to be fit for independent charge of work in this Province.

Agricultural Associations—fairs and shows.

224. Owing to the reorganisation of the Department this was the last year of existence of the Divisional Associations, for whose work in supervising and linking together the district associations the Deputy or Assistant Directors of Agriculture in charge of the Divisions will now be responsible. Fourteen Agricultural shows and fairs were held during the year under review and received grants-in-aid from Government aggregating Rs. 4,300.

Agricultural Engineering and well-boring.

225. Only 26 borings were made during the year against 110 in the previous year. The decrease was due partly to the transfer of the control of operations in the Patna Division, together with a portion of the staff to the District

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Boards, and partly to the ignorance of the benefits of well-boring on the part of the cultivators in the Bhagalpur Division, where the remainder of this section was transferred.

The inhabitants of this area have yet to be convinced of the advantages of this method of obtaining water. The principle hitherto followed in the Province has been to carry on experimental work through the Department and as soon as positive results are obtained to make the District Boards responsible for the further progress. As a result of this arrangement, the provision of wells for the purpose of irrigation, which is a matter of great importance in certain districts, has been neglected in favour of sinking wells for an increased supply of water for drinking and similar objects. Both sides of the work are of great value, and neither should be sacrificed to the other. The general arrangements were, therefore, carefully examined on the suggestion of the Director of Agriculture that an Agricultural Engineer should be appointed as in other Provinces, and an Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department was placed on deputation to summarise the results already obtained and to enquire into the working in Bihar and Orissa of the Canadian method of boring, generally known in India as Sukul's system. On the receipt of his report the question will be considered whether the principles on which work now proceeds should be revised, to allow of greater attention being given separately to each side of the subject and whether the organisation of this section of the Department should be re-cast or not.

Publication of Agricultural information.

226. In addition to the usual reports, the Department published in its half-yearly Journal, a number of important articles on various agricultural matters, and distributed in the fairs and shows small leaflets both in Vernacular and English.

Arboriculture.

227. Good progress was made in Arboriculture during the year and the District Boards are now taking great interest in roadside planting. The total expenditure incurred during the year by these bodies and Road Committees on planting out trees and nurseries amounted to Rs. 55,734 and the receipts from the sale of trees, fruits, etc., amounted to Rs. 12,079.

Co-operative Dairying.

228. The supply of pure milk to large towns engaged the attention of the Local Government during the year under review and was specially considered by a small conference of officials and non-officials held at Bankipore during the cold weather. It was generally agreed that the formation of co-operative societies of *Goalas* on the lines of that existing in Gaya constituted the most promising line of advance, and it was decided to train a Veterinary Assistant, as soon as one could be made available, in dairy management with a view to his employment in the organisation of societies and the training of managers for them. Another aspect of the question, on which stress was laid, was the provision of an improved fodder-supply, and it was suggested that this could be attained by the acquisition of further grazing lands by Municipalities and by persuading the *Goalas* to grow fodder crops to be turned into ensilage. Steps are now being taken to give effect as far as is possible to these recommendations.

Veterinary Department.

[Report of the Veterinary Department in Bihar and Orissa for 1914-15.]

Veterinary instruction.

229. The Veterinary College at Belgachia in Bengal continued to be the training ground for Veterinary students from Bihar and Orissa. The total number of students from this Province under training in the three classes of the College at the end of the session was 26, of whom nineteen passed at the annual examination.

Civil Veterinary Department.

230. Five Inspectors, 64 Veterinary Assistants and two Reserve Assistants employed as special Inspectors of Inoculation in the Ranchi district worked under the control of the Superintendent during the year. The majority of these are reported to have performed their duties satisfactorily. The scheme

for the reorganisation of the Department received further consideration during the year, and it is proposed to revise again the terms of pay and allowances for Veterinary Assistants which were originally proposed with a view to encouraging recruitment of a better class of men. As the revision will involve additional expense to local bodies, they are being consulted again before the scheme is submitted to the Government of India. The rates now proposed, combined with the transfer of the training ground from Belgachia to Allahabad, in the event of the establishment of a Veterinary College there, are expected to ensure an adequate flow of recruits of the right class, which the present arrangements do not provide.

Cattle diseases.

231. Owing to the assistance rendered by the District Officers and the Superintendents of Police concerned, the arrangements for reporting outbreaks of cattle disease showed marked improvement in the majority of the districts. The chief causes of cattle mortality were, as usual, rinderpest and hæmorrhagic septicæmia, of which the former alone accounted for 23,085 out of a total number of 28,365 deaths from contagious diseases. The high proportion is mainly due to a particularly virulent epidemic which broke out in the early part of the year among the herds grazing in the Nepal jungles, whence it spread among the cattle of the Bettiah subdivision of Champaran. The total number of outbreaks of rinderpest in the different parts of the Province during the year was 3,882 against 1,525 of the previous year.

The scheme for inoculation against hæmorrhagic septicæmia through the agency of locally trained inoculators, inaugurated in the Ranchi district two years ago, was further applied during the year to rinderpest and a fair measure of success was obtained. It was also extended to a small area in the north of the Manbhum district. The total number of inoculations performed during the year was 130,027 against 121,020 in the previous year. Of these inoculations, 85,688 were done by the regular staff of the Department while the aboriginal staff in Ranchi accounted for the rest.

Dispensaries.

232. The paucity of trained Veterinary Assistants to fill vacancies resulted in the closing of two out of the 22 dispensaries opened in the preceding year. The number of in and out-patients treated at these twenty dispensaries was 26,044 against 23,849 of the previous year. Local bodies are now ready to sanction expenditure on veterinary hospitals, but the difficulty in providing staff is hindering a rapid development.

Breeding operations.

233. The Government cattle-breeding farm at Sipaya, which was started during the preceding year, has made satisfactory progress. The herd has now increased to 119 head and it has been found possible to supply four bulls, three to the Gaya and one to the Purnea District Board, for distribution by these bodies to Co-operative Societies for improvement of the breed of cattle of the districts. The revised scheme for the working of the farm received the approval of the Government of India after the close of the year and the buildings are now nearing completion. Further development in the direction of forming a herd of special dairy cattle and of an improved strain of buffaloes will be taken up when funds become available. The report of the special officer deputed in the year 1912-13 to make a preliminary survey of the cattle of the Province was completed in the course of the year and is now available to the public.

Co-operative Societies.

[Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending 31st May 1915.]

General Progress.

234. The Report for the previous year covered the fourteen months from the 1st April 1913 to the 31st May 1914, but included statistics for the first twelve months only, all societies registered after the 1st April 1914 being excluded from the returns. The disadvantages of this course for statistical purposes were obvious, and the precedent has not been followed in the present Report. The table below summarises the progress of societies of all kinds made during the year ending on the 31st May 1915.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Summary of General Progress.

Year.	Societies.			Total.	Remarks.
	Central.	Non-agricultural.	Agricultural.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Number of Societies.			
1913-14 ...	12	32	766	822	* Exclusive of nineteen agricultural and two non-agricultural societies which have not yet been financed.
1914-15 ...	19	*49	*1,019	1,087	
	+7	+17	+253	+265	
		Membership.			
1913-14 ...	1,142	‡12,377	37,270	50,789	
1914-15 ...	†1,926	‡7,417	45,304	‡54,647	† Includes 1,038 individual members.
	+784	—4,960	+8,034	+3,858	‡ The decline in column 3 is due to the omission of 5,427 who were last year recorded as members of the Chota Nagpur Catholic Stores. The real increase in membership throughout the Province is 8,718.
		Working Capital.			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1913-14 ...	8,15,221	1,40,608	13,45,297	23,01,126	
1914-15 ...	17,09,685	2,06,670	17,34,954	36,51,309	
	+8,94,464	+66,062	+3,89,657	+13,50,183	

The aggregate working capital at the close of the year stood at Rs. 36,51,309 which represents an increase of more than $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs over the corrected figure of the previous year. The enormous increase was due almost entirely to the contributions from the Central and the Agricultural Societies which account for nearly $8\frac{19}{20}$ lakhs and $3\frac{9}{10}$ lakhs, respectively. The year under review has been one of steady progress in many directions rather than of phenomenal expansion. The Provincial Bank, which was inaugurated at the end of the previous year, has made a most satisfactory début, and the results attained in controlling and co-ordinating the financial activities of the central societies and in securing to them a due flow of capital afford complete justification both of the policy which led to its formation and of the lines on which it has been constituted. The extent of its working may be gauged by the working capital which stood at just under three lakhs at the end of the year, while the turn-over is shown by the figure of twenty-three lakhs for receipts. To show the tendency of recent years, it may be noticed that in 1911-12 a society had on an average 51 members compared with 45 and Rs. 24-4-0 of working capital to each member as against Rs. 38-5-0 in the year under review. These figures go to prove the increased attention paid to careful selection of members and to adequate, though not excessive, financing, and thus bear witness to the fact that the movement is progressing on sound lines.

One of the most gratifying features of the Report is the progress recorded by the Ranchi Union, which, in view of the backwardness of the area with which it is concerned, has received special assistance from Government during the year with regard both to the provision of a manager and to the introduction of the fly-shuttle loom among the weavers. The improvement of the position of handloom weavers is so bound up with the future of co-operation that the various weaving schools of the Province have now been placed under the charge of the Registrar in order to expedite a similar change elsewhere. Another experiment, which merits the attention of all municipal reformers in Bihar and Orissa, is the formation of a Goalas' Society at Gaya for the supply of pure milk, which, though many difficulties have still to be solved, shows promise of satisfactory working.

Due attention has been paid during the period under review to the provision of an effective audit and proposals for the reorganisation of the supervising agency and the establishment of an audit federation have now been submitted to the Government of India. The Local Government have also had under consideration recently the desirability of initiating young officers into the problems of co-operation and orders have accordingly been passed that every Assistant Magistrate should undergo a short course of practical training under the personal care of the Registrar during his first cold weather in the country and should be introduced to the leading literature on the subject.

235. The number of central societies other than the Provincial Bank rose from eleven to eighteen and their working capital from eight to fourteen lakhs. The number of affiliated societies also rose to 888 from 593 in the previous year. The financial position of the Central Banks continues to be sound. Their paid-up share capital aggregated Rs. 1,78,000 and their reserves Rs. 38,262 or a total of Rs. 2,16,000 as against loans and deposits amounting to Rs. 12,00,000, a proportion of nearly 1 : 5½. Their general progress is reported to be satisfactory and a distinct improvement has been effected in many places in the work of inspection and supervision of the societies and the management of their offices. The inspecting clerks who have been trained and licensed by the Registrar are more efficient than their predecessors, while the appointment of trained managers and Assistant Secretaries is also having a good effect. A marked feature of the year is the increase in local inspection by Directors and Honorary Supervisors. Another is the number of schemes for the improvement of Agriculture, Industries, Cattle-breeding, Education, etc., the special merit of which is that they attract workers of all classes to the cause of co-operation and tend to give the raiyats more interest in their societies and so to improve them. **Central Banks.**

236. These societies have increased in number from 766 in 1913-14 to 1,019 with 45,304 members and Rs. 17,34,954 as the aggregate working capital against 37,270 members and Rs. 13,45,297 working capital during the previous year. The number of societies affiliated to Central Banks or Unions is 888 against 593 in 1913-14. Eighty-seven per cent. of the agricultural societies are now affiliated as against 74 per cent. on May 31st, 1914, and 57 per cent. on March 31st, 1913; in other words, a central society is now in existence in practically every area in which sufficient spade work has been done to make its establishment practicable. The largest is, as in the last year, the Chota Nagpur Catholic Mission Society, which has now 10,675 members with a working capital of Rs. 1,28,000 against 10,349 members with a working capital of Rs. 1,09,000 in 1913-14. **Agricultural Societies.**

One-third of the total amount of Rs. 28,712 given as loans to members was advanced for the purchase of cattle. In March 1915, a general meeting of the society was held in Ranchi at which 800 representatives of rural units were present. The societies formerly managed by the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission now number twelve with a membership of over 2,000 members and a working capital of Rs. 50,000 of which Rs. 39,000 belong to the members. The English missionaries who are taking over their stations will continue to keep a careful eye on them.

The Bihar societies continued to flourish. In Champaran there are two groups and the audit reports show that they are improving, the two societies in the Christian Settlement at Bettiah being among the best in the Province. In other places isolated societies give promise of future expansion. This is particularly so at Banka in the Bhagalpur Division, where a central bank is about to be founded. It has been decided to register the Santal Parganas grain *golas* under the Act.

In Orissa the eleven societies in Balasore are likely to develop into central banks in the near future. Certain experimental societies have been started at Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Sambalpur.

237. The number of these societies at the end of the year was 49, *viz.*, 33 with limited and sixteen with unlimited liability. A new society has been formed for the scavengers of the Doranda Station Committee which is reported to be **Non-Agricultural Societies.**

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

a very hopeful one. The Doranda Co-operative Society and the societies in Saran, Gaya and Monghyr, are doing well. There are 77 societies with limited liability known as " Amla " societies with a working capital of about a lakh and a quarter. Only three of these are reported to be flourishing. The appointment of a special Auditor which has been sanctioned for urban societies with limited liability will have a very beneficial effect on these societies.

Other forms of co-operation.

238. Apart from the Chota Nagpur Catholic Stores some progress has been made with other forms of co-operation. The dullness of the market affected to a certain extent the Patna Durry-makers' Society where the profit fell from Rs. 1,576 to Rs. 239. The Society seems to have a successful future in store for it. There are eight other Weavers' Societies, one in Cuttack, two in Sambalpur and five in the town of Bihar. All but one seem to have made a fair beginning and show a small profit. Satisfactory progress is reported to have been made in the Jolaha (Weavers) Societies situated in and around Ranchi, where not only was the yarn-selling business greatly expanded, but an experimental demonstration of the use of the fly-shuttle and of new kinds of weaving was introduced. The results of the experiment are reported to be very hopeful.

The Chota Nagpur Catholic Stores which was registered in 1913 was audited officially during the year. The result showed among other things that more than half the number of the members which was returned last year at 9,800 did not pay anything to the stores by way of entrance fee or on shares and the figure was consequently reduced to 4,373. Steps are being taken to remedy other defects disclosed by the audit. The turn-over this year was Rs. 91,312 and the stock in hand on the 31st May 1915 was Rs. 29,714.

The Ranchi Secretariat Co-operative Stores, Limited, was founded in the previous year to afford relief to the Secretariat assistants from high prices and uncertain supplies. The number of its members at the close of the year was 61 and the paid-up capital Rs. 890. The rest of the working capital which stood at Rs. 3,000 consisted of loans from Government and the Ranchi Union and of deposits by members. The Stores made a profit of Rs. 237 during the year. Finally, mention should be made of the foundation of the Mangla Gouri Goala Dairy Society in the town of Gaya, the first of its kind in the Province. The Society is still in its infancy ; but it is reported that if properly managed, it should be able to work at a good profit, its financial condition being sound.

Indirect effects.

239. The indirect effects of the co-operative movement are far-reaching and cannot easily be summarised. Habits of thrift are being learnt and a sense of public-spiritedness is developing. Material and social improvements, which are visible and comparatively immediate results, are important; but the ultimate gain to the community, by the elimination of many of the present unsatisfactory features of Indian village life, will be an even greater achievement.

Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop Report of Bihar and Orissa, 1914-15. Crop forecasts of Bihar and Orissa, 1914-15. Area and yield of certain principal crops in India, 1914-15.]

Character of the Season.

240. In March the rainfall was below the normal in all districts except Gaya, Champaran, Palamau and Singhbhum, where it was above the normal. In April it was above the normal in all districts except Champaran, Ranchi, Palamau, Manbhum and Singhbhum. In May the rainfall was above the normal in all districts except Muzaffarpur and Purnea, where it was slightly below the normal. In June the rainfall was below the normal in all districts except the three coast districts of Orissa, where it was above the normal. In July the rainfall was above the normal in Shahabad, Monghyr, the Santal Parganas, Cuttack, Balasore, Puri, Sambalpur, Ranchi, Manbhum and Singhbhum, and below the normal in the remaining districts. In August it was above the normal in all districts except Cuttack, Balasore, Angul, Puri, Hazaribagh, Manbhum and Singhbhum, where the rainfall was in defect. In September the rainfall was defective except in Orissa, where it was above the normal. In October the rainfall was scanty and below the normal everywhere. In November there was no rain. In December light rain fell in all districts

except Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Purnea, the fall being below the normal except in Monghyr, the Santal Parganas, Balasore, Hazaribagh, Palamau and Singhbhum, where it was either equal to or above the normal. In January the rainfall was general but below the normal except in Orissa. The rainfall in February was general and above the normal in most districts. The season was generally favourable in the beginning of the year. Excessive rain towards the end of August affected the outturn of the *bhadoi* crops in parts of Bihar but facilitated transplantation of the winter rice crop which operation had been delayed on account of insufficient rain from the latter part of June to the middle of August. The failure of the *hathiya* rain again considerably affected the outturn of the winter rice crop and restricted sowings of the *rabi* crops. Lastly, the dryness of November and December was responsible for the defective outturn of the *rabi* crops. There was good rain in February but it was too late to be of any appreciable benefit.

The table below shows the estimated area and outturn in 1914-15 of *bhadoi*, winter and *rabi* crops in comparison with the corresponding revised estimates of the previous year and of a normal year :—

Name of harvest.	Normal area in acres.	Area cultivated during 1913-14.	Area cultivated during 1914-15.	Taking 100 to represent the normal outturn how much represented the outturn for the year.	
				1913-14.	1914-15.
1	2	3	4		6
(1) *Bhadoi*	8,943,400	9,035,800	8,783,800	86	80
(2) Winter — Winter rice ...	12,259,100	12,437,400	12,379,300	101	70
(2) Winter — Sugarcane and other winter crops.	607,900	632,300	503,900	90	88
(3) *Rabi*	11,350,100	9,759,100	9,764,800	102	74
Total ...	33,160,500	31,864,600	31,431,80	97	74

241. The above statement shows that the total area cultivated during 1914-15 with different kinds of *bhadoi* crops was estimated at 8,783,800 acres against 9,035,800 acres in the preceding year. The normal area under the crops is 8,943,400 acres. The season was not on the whole a favourable one for the *bhadoi* crops. The defective rainfall at the period of growth, especially in Bihar, and heavy rain and floods in parts of Patna, Saran, Darbhanga, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Cuttack, Balasore and Puri, unfavourably affected the crops. The short rainfall in September and October also somewhat affected the outturn of the crops in certain districts. The outturn of the *bhadoi* crops as a whole excluding jute and indigo amounted to 80 per cent. of the normal as against 86 per cent. of last year. The total area under *bhadoi* food crops was estimated at 8,230,400 acres as compared with a normal area of 8,270,300 acres. The total area sown with all the different kinds of *bhadoi* non-food crops including jute and indigo was estimated at 553,400 acres as compared with 571,300 acres of last year. **Bhadoi or Autumn Crops.**

242. Purnea, the most important jute-growing district in Bihar and Orissa, produces about 90 per cent. of the total crop in the Province. The districts of Cuttack and the Santal Parganas come next in importance. The remaining jute-growing districts are of little importance. In March the rainfall was defective in all the jute-growing districts except Champaran. In April it was below the normal in Champaran and above the normal in the remaining jute districts. In **Jute.**

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

May it was slightly below the normal in Purnea and Muzaffarpur, but elsewhere it was above the normal. In June the rainfall was below the normal in all the jute districts except Cuttack and Balasore which received more than the average fall. In Purnea the deficiency was heavy. Only 6·63 inches were obtained as against a normal for the month of 12·27 inches. In July the rainfall was above the normal in the Santal Parganas, Cuttack and Balasore, but below the normal in Purnea and the other three jute districts. In Purnea the deficiency was again marked, amounting to 5·38 inches. In August the rainfall was above the average in all districts except Cuttack and Balasore, where the fall was in defect. The defective rainfall in Purnea from May to July at the critical period for the growth of the crop affected the outturn in that district. The area under jute in the Province was estimated at 330,100 acres against 318,400 acres of the previous year. The total outturn of the crop for the Province worked out to 70 per cent. In Purnea the outturn was estimated at 67·6 per cent. only on the results of a series of crop tests carried out by special officers. The gross yield of the crop for the Province amounted to 693,206 bales against 602,862 bales or in round numbers 602,900 bales of last year.

Indigo.

243. The crop is cultivated in eight districts of Bihar principally in the North Bihar districts. In North Bihar districts the Sumatrana variety was sown about a week later than usual owing to rain early in March. Sowings of the Java variety were also delayed on account of excessive rain. Owing to want of rain in May and June the crop remained stunted, but as this was followed by good rains in July and August, and also by favourable weather during manufacture, the second cuttings turned out better than those of last year and the outturn per acre was higher. In the other Bihar districts the weather was generally unfavourable. According to the estimates of the District Officers the area under the crop was 38,500 acres during the year under report against 63,100 acres of the previous year and the total yield of the crop worked out to 8,181 factory maunds against 10,488 factory maunds of last year. Owing to the war the value of the crop appreciated by between 400 and 500 per cent.

Aghani Crops—winter rice.

244. The rainfall at the beginning of the season was favourable for preparation of seed beds. Transplantation was, however, delayed in several districts of Bihar on account of insufficient rain from the latter part of June to the close of the month of August. The heavy rainfall in Bihar in the last week of August, however, facilitated operations to a great extent. But the failure of the *hathiya* rain prejudiced the crop and some damage was done in consequence, especially in unirrigated areas in most districts of Bihar and parts of Orissa and Chota Nagpur. Insects did some injury in Shahabad, Cuttack, Balasore, Angul, Sambalpur, Ranchi, Manbhum and Singhbhum. Floods were also responsible for some damage in Darbhanga and Bhagalpur after the transplantation. The area sown with winter rice in 1914-15 amounted to 12,379,300 acres against 12,437,400 acres of the previous year and a normal area of 12,259,100 acres. The outturn of the crop for the Province as a whole was estimated at 70 per cent. of the normal against 101 per cent. in the previous year.

Sugarcane.

245. Sugarcane is cultivated chiefly in Bihar. Outside Bihar the crop is important in Manbhum and Hazaribagh. The weather conditions were generally favourable in the beginning of the season, but the defective rainfall during the latter part of the season affected the outturn in a good many districts. According to the estimates of the District Officers the area under the crop was 270,300 acres against 262,900 acres of the previous year and the outturn for the Province was estimated at 95 per cent. of the normal against 100 per cent. of the previous year.

Rabi Crops.

246. Bihar is the chief *rabi*-growing tract, but *rabi* crops are also important in Cuttack and in parts of Chota Nagpur. The failure of the *hathiya* rain restricted sowings in several districts. The absence of rain in November and December affected the growth of the crop. The rainfall in February was general and above the normal in most districts. It was somewhat beneficial to the late sown *rabi* crops but did damage to early crops ready for harvest. The total area under all kinds of *rabi* crops was estimated at 9,764,800 acres against 9,759,100 acres of last year. The total normal area under these crops is 11,350,100 acres.

The total area of various *rabi* food crops including wheat amounted to 7,611,600 acres against 7,565,300 acres in the preceding year. The area sown with different *rabi* non-food crops was 2,153,200 acres against 2,193,800 acres, the estimate of the previous year. The outturn of the wheat crop was estimated at 65 per cent., that of oilseeds at 70 per cent. and that of other *rabi* crops at 77 per cent. of the normal. Last year the outturn of wheat and oilseed crops was normal and that of other *rabi* crops was 105 per cent. of the normal.

Cotton.

247. The early cotton is most important in Ranchi and the Santal Parganas, where the acreage amounts to more than half of the total area under the crop in the Province. The less important districts are Sambalpur, Angul and Manbhum. The weather conditions were favourable except in Sambalpur, Angul, Palamau and part of the Santal Parganas, where the outturn was affected by short rainfall. The late variety is chiefly cultivated in North Bihar, Cuttack, Manbhum and Singhbhum. The weather conditions were generally favourable and the prospects of the crop were fairly good in the important late cotton-growing districts. Some damage was done by floods in Darbhanga. The area under the early and late varieties of the cotton crop in this Province was 71,700 acres against 73,600 acres of the previous year and the outturn of the crop (both early and late) for the Province as a whole, including the Native States, worked out to 16,393 bales against 17,695 bales, the revised estimate of last year.

Forests.

[Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*)—Financial and Revenue.]

Changes in the Administration.

248. The death of Mr. T. H. Monteath, Deputy Conservator of Forests, left no senior officer available in the Circle to hold charge of the Singhbhum division and no experienced officer could be spared for the purpose from any other Province. Arrangements were therefore made after the close of the year to replace Mr. A. N. Grieve in his charge of Forest Officer to the Orissa Feudatory States by a junior officer, thus making his services available for Singhbhum.

The sanction of the Government of India has been received to the revision of the scales of pay of the Subordinate Forest Service at an additional cost of Rs. 9,744 a year with effect from the 2nd March 1915. The chief features of the reorganization are the regrading of the posts of Rangers, Deputy Rangers, and Forest Guards and the raising of the maximum pay of the Rangers from Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 and of the minimum pay of Forest Guards from Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 a month.

As the present size of the cadre does not afford sufficient provision for the preparation of working plans and for sylvicultural research in which direction many problems are in urgent need of investigation and solution, the Local Government moved the Government of India, in accordance with the Resolution passed by the Board of Forestry at Dehra Dun in March 1913, for the creation of an extra post in the Imperial Forest Service to be filled up as soon as a recruit could be obtained. In view of the fact that the Sambalpur Division now takes the second place in the Circle from the standpoint of revenue, the large amount of supervision demanded by its exploitation, and the great length of its boundary and fire lines, the Local Government have declared it to be a major charge with effect from the 1st April 1915.

During the year a rough working scheme for the Horhap Reserve in the district of Ranchi drawn up by Mr. Kirkpatrick, Deputy Conservator of Forests, was sanctioned by the Local Government.

Changes in area.

249. An addition of 164 acres has been made to the area of reserved forests by the rectification of an error in last year's statement and a net increase of 3,030 acres has taken place in the protected forests managed by the Forest Department owing to the addition of two blocks in the Kolhan Forest Division. Other protected forests have decreased by over 12,000 acres chiefly owing to the extension of cultivation in Sambalpur.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The area under the control of the Forest Department consisted of 1,727 square miles of reserved forests and of 1,063 square miles of protected forests. In Angul 45 square miles are under partial control of the Forest Department.

The sixteen blocks of Forests in the Sambalpur district, the reservation of which was mentioned in last year's report, remained unsettled.

Communications and buildings.

250. An expenditure of Rs. 81,805 was incurred during the year for roads and buildings against Rs. 78,827 in the previous year. 55 miles of new cart roads and 27 miles of new bridle paths were constructed at a cost of Rs. 22,408 and Rs. 1,196, respectively, as compared with 89 miles of new cart roads and fourteen miles of bridle paths at a cost of Rs. 21,059 and Rs. 1,362, during 1913-14. Most of the roads prescribed in the Singhbhum working plan are now complete. A sum of Rs. 844 was also spent on the opening out of 69 miles of temporary export roads. The total expenditure on new buildings was Rs. 31,755 and a sum of Rs. 4,667 was spent on miscellaneous works, both figures showing little change from those of the previous year.

Forest offences.

251. The total number of forest offences reported during the year was 1,405, an increase of 324 over the figures for 1913-14 and of 166 over those for the past three years. The increase is mainly due to the bad fire season of the year.

Protection from fire.

252. Bad years for forest fires recur periodically and the period under review was one of them. The area, consisting almost entirely of reserved forests, over which fire-protection was attempted, increased to 1,112,366 acres from 1,087,683 acres in the previous year, only 88 per cent. of the area being actually protected, while the area burnt was 130,027 acres against 5,248. It is reported that the majority of fires occurred in the areas producing *sabai* grass, and it is believed that many of the fires were due to intentional incendiarism. The attention of the Conservator has already been drawn to the importance of mutual arrangements for fire-protection between adjoining forests in British India and the Feudatory States of Orissa.

Protection from cattle and against injuries from natural causes.

253. The total area of reserves open and closed to grazing remained practically unchanged. Twenty-two square miles were open to all animals against nineteen square miles last year and 336 square miles were open to grazing but not to browsing. One hundred and one cases of illicit grazing were detected during the year against 126 in the previous year and 365 cattle were impounded against 661 in 1913-14.

Storms in April and May caused damage in the Santal Parganas and to some forests in the Singhbhum, Palamau and Angul divisions. Palamau also suffered severely from drought which seriously affected regeneration.

Financial results.

254. During the year the annual revenue, expenditure and surplus were Rs. 5,49,374, Rs. 3,79,195, and Rs. 1,70,179, respectively, against Rs. 5,04,435, Rs. 3,63,779, and Rs. 1,40,656 in the previous year and an average of Rs. 4,12,061, Rs. 3,07,668 and Rs. 1,04,393 during the previous quinquennial period. The satisfactory return is mainly due to the large net revenue derived from the accumulation of sal capital in the Singhbhum Division.

Manufactures and Mines.

[Statistics of British India, Part I—Industrial.]

Jute.

255. The area under jute in 1914-15 was estimated at 330,100 acres against 318,400 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was in round numbers 693,200 bales against 602,900 bales of the previous year.

Indigo.

256. The area under indigo in 1914-15 was 38,500 acres against 63,100 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was 8,181 factory maunds against 10,488 in 1913-14.

Tea.

257. There were 21 gardens in Ranchi and one in Hazaribagh. The area under tea in Ranchi in 1914 was 2,070 acres and in Hazaribagh 90 acres. The total outturn of tea (black and green) in 1914 was 282,414 lbs. against 311,630 lbs. in 1913.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

258. The total output of sugar produced by the sugar refineries in the Tirhut Division and in Shahabad and Monghyr is reported to be 438,283 maunds against 426,918 maunds in the previous year. The sugar refineries worked fairly well and the price of the article was profitable. **Sugar.**

A considerable quantity of cane grown in this Province finds its way to the Pertabpur Factory in Saran and the Babhnauli Factory in Gorakhpur, United Provinces. The sugar produced is reported in the Statistics of the United Provinces.

These factories have furnished the following figures of the cane grown in Saran district during 1914-15:—

Pertabpur.	Babhnauli.
326,675 Mds.	18,127 Mds.

259. During the year 377 coal mines were worked in the Province against 365 in the previous year. The total output of coal was 10,651,047 tons against 10,226,389 in the preceding year. This represents a little over two-thirds of the total output of India. The greater part of it came from the Manbhum district where 346 mines yielded 9,644,378 tons. The corresponding figures for the previous year are 334 mines and 9,281,087 tons. The daily average number of persons employed in the mines rose from 87,362 to 90,681. **Coal.**

260. In the year under report there were two iron mines in the Province, one in Singhbhum and the other in Puri, as in the preceding year. The mine in Puri produced only 48 tons of iron while that in Singhbhum produced 151,029, an increase of 53,558 tons over its previous year's produce. The mines gave employment to a daily average of 33 and 935 persons respectively against 49 and 1,245 of the preceding year. **Iron.**

261. During the year the only copper ore mine in Singhbhum produced an outturn of 4,400 tons of the ore against 3,639 tons of the preceding year. The mine gave employment to a daily average of 1,867 persons against 1,215 of the previous year. **Copper ore.**

262. The number of mica mines which were worked in the Province during the year was 492 against 547 in the previous year. The total output in cwts. was 31,149 against 31,239 in the preceding year. The daily average number of persons employed in the mines decreased from 12,314 to 11,384. **Mica.**

Miscellaneous Manufactures and Industries in each Division.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914-15.]

263. The manufactures and industries of the Patna Division are of little importance commercially. The progress of the Weaving School at Bihar was disappointing owing to the conservatism of the local weavers. At Dinapore furniture of a fair quality is made. In Gaya the result of prospecting for pitch-blende in the hills near Bhanukhap in the Nawada subdivision is reported to be promising, though no regular vein has yet been discovered: the pitch-blende found is said to be one of the richest in radium content in the world. The mica industry in this subdivision was dull owing to the war, and the lac industry continues to decline. In Shahabad, two new mills for oil and *surkhi* have been started in extension of existing rice and aerated-water and flour factories. The limestone and lime-burning industry in the Sasaram Subdivision continued to expand, employing 1,125 persons daily against an average of 950 in the preceding year; while the exports of 63,480 tons of limestone, 2,659 tons of ballast and 18,773 tons of lime show a decided advance on last year's export of 55,136, 892 and 10,577 tons of limestone, ballast and lime, respectively. **Patna Division.**

264. Indigo, which was formerly the chief industry of this Division, but has of late years declined greatly, received a temporary impetus from the high prices due to the war; and though the area under cultivation was much less than in the preceding year, the outturn was better. The sugar factories had another **Tirhut Division.**

PRODUCTION, AND DISTRIBUTION.

good year; the area under cultivation expanded in all districts especially in Muzaffarpur where the increase was from 14,200 to 21,200 acres. One new factory was opened in Darbhanga during the year and another was in course of erection. The existing rice mills in Champaran are working well and more are under construction. In Darbhanga, there is a flourishing trade in tobacco, large quantities of dried leaves being supplied to the Peninsular Tobacco Company at Monghyr.

Bhagalpur Division.

265. The Cigarette Factory of the Peninsular American Tobacco Company at Monghyr is the largest and most important factory in the Division and turns out a very large number of cheap Indian cigarettes. The chief trade is in jute in Purnea but the market was dull owing to the heavy fall in price. The oil mills at Monghyr and Lakhisarai are in a prosperous condition, but the mica industry of the district suffered heavily from the war. In the Santal Parganas, the weaving industry at Barhait and Borio continued to flourish, while the Stone Companies in the Pakaur subdivision have also had a prosperous year. The lac industry showed signs of improvement.

Orissa Division.

266. There has been but little real economic advance in this Division, though the few existing industries are, on the whole, carrying on their work successfully. The bell metal and weaving industries in Cuttack and Balasore were carried on as usual. The jute business in the Kendrapara subdivision of Cuttack suffered from the war in Europe. Dr. Harrison's red oxide mine in the Khurda Government Estate in Puri appears to be making headway. There are as yet no skilled industries in Angul. Good progress is being shown by the Hingir Rampur Coal Company, which is taking up fresh areas for working more pits.

Chota Nagpur Division.

267. The most important industries and manufactures of the Province lie in this Division, the coal industry of Manbhum overshadowing the rest. In Singhbhum the Tata Iron and Steel Company employs a daily average of nearly 9,000 persons and has effected many improvements in the quality and output of steel during the year. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company in the Kolhan Government Estate provides employment for over 900 labourers and despatched 120,552 tons of ore in the year. The Cape Copper Company also developed freely, while mining and prospecting operations in limestone, granite, chrominium and manganese were carried on by other companies.

Working of the Indian Factories Act.

[Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Assam, for the year 1914. Statistics of British India, Part I—Industrial.]

Number of factories and system of work.

268. There were 46 factories in the Province at the close of the year against 34 at the beginning. The average daily number of persons employed was 28,380 of whom 25,005 were adult males. In nine factories work was carried on by means of "shifts", in twenty-five under the system of a midday stoppage and in eight under other arrangements. The remaining four factories were exempted under Part C of Schedule I of the Act. The Sunday holiday was observed in 23 factories; Sunday or a substituted day in seven factories; eleven factories were worked under other arrangements, and the remaining five factories were exempted under various sections of the Act.

Inspections.

269. Inspections by the whole-time Inspectors were made in 28 factories once, in 16 twice, and in two on three occasions. The District Officers of Patna, Saran, Cuttack, Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Monghyr and Singhbhum also made a certain number of inspections in factories in their respective districts.

General health of operatives.

270. The general health of the operatives was good and no epidemics were reported.

Sanitary arrangements and quarters for operatives.

271. The Sanitary arrangements and arrangements for ventilation in the factories generally were good. In a few cases, where hand service latrines have not yet been replaced by septic tanks, complaints were made about the insanitary state in which such latrines were kept. Only one factory, being situated outside the limits of the Municipality, was exempted under section 13 of the Act, from the liability to make suitable latrine accommodation for its operatives. Most of the larger factories have provided quarters for their hands.

Wages and general condition of operatives.

272. The general condition of operatives employed in factories was satisfactory. In the Engineering works, the rates of wages demanded by skilled labour are steadily increasing year by year. During the year this was specially noticeable in regard to fitters, coppersmiths and riveters. There has also been a slight increase in wages paid to unskilled labourers, such as lascars and coolies.

Employment of women and children.

273. The daily average number of women employed was 2,648 and that of children 727 against 3,721 and 662 in the preceding year. The decrease in the number of women employed was due to only 1,654 women having been employed in the Tata Iron and Steel Works during the year as compared with 2,628 in 1913.

Fencing of machinery.

274. The machinery in factories was generally well fenced. Only three cases of fatal accidents due to machinery were reported during the year. In the majority of cases the injuries received from machinery were caused by the negligence of the workers themselves or their disobedience of the standing orders of the factories.

Accidents.

275. The number of accidents reported during the year was 415 of which 13 were fatal, 101 serious and 301 minor, against 17, 122 and 267 of the preceding year.

Prosecutions, fires and strikes.

276. There were no prosecutions instituted nor any serious fires or strikes reported during the year.

TRADE.

[Statistics of British India, Part II—Commercial.]

I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.

Foreign Trade.

277. The value of sea-borne trade was Rs. 5,08,829 or 5·08 lakhs in 1914-15 against 28·72 lakhs in 1913-14, showing a decrease of 23·64 lakhs or nearly 82·3 per cent. The trade is confined to export and consists chiefly of the shipment of rice. It was distributed amongst the three ports as follows:—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.
Balasore	7,17,916	2,38,176
Cuttack	16,16,336	1,32,904
Puri	5,38,353	1,37,749
Total ...	28,72,605	5,08,829

Articles exported.

278. The articles of export and their values are compared below:—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.
Grain and pulses—		
Rice not in husk	28,62,518	5,08,349
Other sorts	2,500	*Nil.*
Total ...	28,65,018	5,08,349
Raw materials—		
Seeds-Jinjili	7,587	*Nil.*
Other sorts	*Nil*	480
	7,587	480
Total ...	28,72,605	5,08,829

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The total quantity of rice exported to foreign ports was 3,431 tons against 19,996 tons in 1913-14. The decrease was partly due to poor harvests but mainly to the outbreak of the war. There were no shipments to Mauritius, the export trade being solely carried on with Ceylon as noted below :—

	Cwts.	Rs.
Cuttack	18,388	1,32,904
Balasore	27,121	2,37,696
Puri	23,115	1,37,749
Total ...	68,624	5,08,349

II.—Frontier Trade.

Nepal.

279. The trans-frontier trade of Bihar and Orissa with Nepal, after three years' progressive increase, received a check during the year 1913-14, and the year under review recorded a further decline both on the import and the export sides. The total value of the trade during the year 1914-15, which amounted to Rs. 366·27 lakhs fell by Rs. 59·29 lakhs or 13·9 per cent., as compared with that of the preceding year. The decrease was mainly in the import trade which fell by Rs. 51·14 lakhs, the deficit on the export side amounting to only Rs. 8·15 lakhs. The total value of the trade does not include treasure, the registration of which continues to be defective, as it is generally carried as personal luggage.

Imports.

280. The aggregate value of the imports declined from Rs. 289·34 lakhs to Rs. 238·20 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 51·14 lakhs or 17·7 per cent. The principal articles of import from Nepal into this Province are food-grains (the predominating group being rice—husked and unhusked), oil-seeds, animals (live), jute, tobacco, *ghi* and hides and skins. Of these, food-grains (including pulse), oilseeds and raw jute account for 75·0 per cent. and animals and hides and skins for 11·2 per cent. of the total imports. Rice showing 52·7 per cent., of the total value of the imported articles, continues to be the largest single item of importation, and during the year under report the import of this article was maunds 34·87 lakhs against maunds 33·73 lakhs of the previous year, showing an increase of maunds 1·09 lakhs, *i.e.*, 3·2 per cent., but the value declined from Rs. 127·39 lakhs to Rs. 125·56 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 1·83 lakhs or 1·4 per cent. The trade in live animals chiefly consists of cattle, bulls, bullocks, cows, calves, buffaloes, sheep and goats, and its total value shows a decrease of 40·5 per cent. The figures for hides and skins also show a very large decrease, *viz.*, 53·87 per cent. The import of jute from Nepal was maunds 284,604 against maunds 377,835 of the previous year, showing a decrease of 24·7 per cent. the decline in value being 51·7 per cent. The decrease in the import of hides and skins and jute may be attributed to the restriction of exports to foreign countries on account of the war. Of the oilseeds received from Nepal linseed and rapeseed continue to be the most important. In the year under review the import of linseed shows an increase of 5·4 per cent. in quantity and 11·8 per cent. in value. The arrival of rapeseed shows a decrease of 33·2 per cent. in quantity and 24·4 per cent. in value.

Exports.

281. The figures for 1913-14 showed an advance of Rs. 3·51 lakhs on those of 1912-13, but during 1914-15 a decline of Rs. 8·15 lakhs or 6·0 per cent. was recorded. Articles manufactured, as distinct from raw products, constitute the bulk of exports from Bihar and Orissa. Of these cotton yarn and piece-goods, mostly of foreign origin, head the list. Other articles of importance on the export side are metals and their manufactures, spices, oils, animals, sugar, salt, provisions, tobacco and grain and pulse. During the year transactions in cotton yarn and piece-goods improved by Rs. 3·84 lakhs or 7·2 per cent. The group next in importance is that of metals and manufactures thereof. The export of these articles showed a considerable decrease of 38·4 per cent. Transactions in grain and pulse showed an improvement of 35·3 per cent. Among other items of importance stationery declined by 29·9 per cent., tobacco by 20·5 per cent., salt by 17·8 per cent., petroleum by 9·1 per cent., sugar by 6·9 per cent., provisions by 6·5 per cent., and spices by 0·2 per cent.

III.—Coasting Trade.

Coasting Trade.

282. The total value of Coasting trade aggregated Rs. 37·91 lakhs against Rs. 57·51 lakhs in 1913-14, the decrease of 19·60 lakhs being mainly due to the war. The statement below shows the value of the Coasting trade in the districts of Balasore and Puri. Cuttack had no such trade.

		Balasore.	Puri.
Imports.		Rs.	Rs.
Merchandise	Indian ...	13,34,743	*Nil*
	Foreign ...	6,22,414	*Nil*
Treasure	... ...	*Nil*	*Nil*
	Total ...	19,57,157	*Nil*
Exports.			
Merchandise	Indian ...	18,26,092	7,707
	Foreign ...	250	*Nil*
Treasure	... ...	*Nil*	*Nil*
	Total ...	18,26,342	7,707

IV.—Trade by Railway and River.

Division and value of trade.

283. The main division of this trade (exclusive of animals and treasure) and its trade estimated value are exhibited in the following table :—

Year.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from other provinces, including Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to other provinces, including Calcutta.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to Calcutta.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1913-14 ...	31,630,953	239,288,552	13,164,292	99,613,806
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	24,08,13,514	29,70,28,797	15,85,26,501	13,48,66,776
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1914-15 ...	33,128,768	256,354,555	13,859,941	96,970,511
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	24,38,59,004	29,24,10,966	15,09,37,691	12,02,58,577

Of the total value of Rs. 24·38 crores of the imports into Bihar and Orissa, some 61·9 per cent. was contributed by the Calcutta trade block, 18·2 per cent. by Bengal, excluding Calcutta, 10·9 per cent. by the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, 3·7 per cent. by the Central Provinces and Berar and the remaining 5·3 per cent. by other provinces.

Of the total exports of Rs. 29·24 crores, some 41·1 per cent. went to Calcutta, 27·5 per cent. to Bengal excluding Calcutta, 13·2 per cent. to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, 4·7 per cent. to the Punjab, 4·0 per cent. to the Central Provinces and Berar and the remaining 9·5 per cent. to other provinces.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Imports.

284. The principal articles of import from Bengal including Calcutta were cotton manufactures (Rs. 6·876 crores), grain and pulse, chiefly rice (Rs. 3·023 crores), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 2·564 crores), railway plant and rolling-stock (Rs. 1·243 crores), oils, chiefly Kerosine (Rs. 1·067 crores), sugar (Rs. 85·2 lakhs); salt (Rs. 77·48 lakhs), spices (Rs. 53 lakhs), gunny-bags and cloth (Rs. 38·56 lakhs); from the United Provinces, cotton manufacture (Rs. 46·4 lakhs); grain and pulse (Rs. 82·6 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 17·5 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 16·2 lakhs), oilseeds (Rs. 10·5 lakhs) and opium (Rs. 5·5 lakhs); from the Central Provinces and Berar, cotton manufactures (Rs. 33·9 lakhs), lac (Rs. 3·4 lakhs) and *ghi* (Rs. 6·19 lakhs).

Exports.

285. The principal exports from Bihar and Orissa to Bengal including Calcutta were coal and coke (Rs. 426·1 lakhs), railway plant and rolling-stock (Rs. 251·3 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 203·0 lakhs), oilseeds, chiefly linseed (Rs. 290·5 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 113·0 lakhs), tobacco (Rs. 58·1 lakhs) and hides and skins (Rs. 90·9 lakhs); to the United Provinces, coal and coke (Rs. 102·8 lakhs), railway plant and rolling-stock (Rs. 21·8 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 52·3 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 14·6 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 59·2 lakhs), and tobacco (Rs. 41·4 lakhs).

Internal Trade.

286. For the purpose of estimating internal trade by rail, the Province is divided into four blocks known as the Patna City, Bihar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur blocks. The trade between those blocks during the year under report is estimated at 47,611,870 maunds of goods. It consists chiefly of coal and coke, food-grains, metallic ores, railway plant and rolling-stock, raw silk, sugar, wood and timber, provisions, tobacco, stone and other building materials.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Establishment.

Administrative changes.

287. The two appointments of Chief Engineers and Secretary to Government were held respectively by Messrs. White and Gardiner, by the former throughout the year and the latter till his retirement in October 1914, when he was succeeded by Mr. G. L. Searight, Superintending Engineer. Mr. H. Wardle, Executive Engineer, continued throughout the year in the appointment of Under-Secretary, Roads and Buildings Branch, and the post of Under-Secretary in the Irrigation and Marine Branch was held by Mr. J. G. Powell, Executive Engineer, from September 1914 to February 1915.

An additional appointment of Superintending Engineer was sanctioned in September 1914, as a temporary measure, for the supervision of work in connection with District Boards and the Bhagalpur Public Works Division in the Eastern Circle. This appointment was intended to relieve the pressure of work on the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, and admit of a more effective supervision of work connected with the new Capital. The post was filled by Mr. A. H. C. MacCarthy, Superintending Engineer, on his return from leave, and ceased from October 1914, on Mr. MacCarthy assuming charge of the Eastern Circle from Mr. G. L. Searight, on the latter officer's appointment as Secretary and Chief Engineer. Mr. MacCarthy remained in charge of the Eastern Circle till February 1915, when he was relieved by Mr. E. G. Stanley, Superintending Engineer, transferred from Burma. Mr. MacCarthy was reappointed as additional Superintending Engineer and Inspector of Local Works of the Bhagalpur Division from February 1915, in which post he continued till the close of the year.

Mr. J. C. Hewitt held charge of the Sone Circle till July 1914, when he proceeded on combined leave and was succeeded by Mr. R. C. Edge, who remained in charge of the Circle till the end of the year. Messrs. Bremner, Clayton, and Blaber held charge of the Orissa, Gandak and Western Circles, respectively, throughout the year.

The temporary Division at Akhuapada, which had been formed in connection with the special repairs to the Burra Weir, was abolished with effect from the 1st June 1914.

The Akhuapada subdivision was re-transferred to the Akhuapada-Jajpur Division from the Balasore Division with effect from the 1st February 1915. Two temporary subdivisions in the Mahanadi Division, one at Chowliaganj, Cuttack, and the other at Puri were formed during the year in connection with the construction of the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, Zila School, Puri, and other buildings.

In the Western Circle a redistribution of works under Ranchi Nos. I and II subdivisions was made and a new subdivision was formed in July 1914, called the Ranchi No. III subdivision.

The Sambalpur Buildings and Chandwa subdivisions were temporarily formed during the year under report, the former in September 1914, and the latter in October 1914.

The Nankum, Kanchi and Tajna bridges temporary subdivisions were absorbed in the Ranchi No. I subdivision.

288. A provincial scale of Ziladars for the Province to take the place of the existing Circle scales was sanctioned, and rules framed for their appointment and promotion. This measure was introduced for the general improvement of the Ziladar Establishment. **Revenue staff.**

289. Memorials from the Lower Subordinates of Bihar and Orissa for improvement of their pay and prospects were submitted to the Government of India in June 1915. The proposals of the Local Government in this connection have been generally approved by the Government of India and a scheme of revision is under consideration. **Lower Subordinates.**

290. Orders have been received from the Government of India in connection with the memorials received from Upper Subordinates which were referred to in the Administration Report for 1913-14 and a draft scheme for the revision of the establishment is under consideration. **Upper Subordinates.**

291. The memorials for the improvement of the pay of the ministerial establishments attached to Circle and Divisional Offices which were received last year have been under the consideration of the Local Government and a scheme of revision will shortly be formulated. **Ministerial Establishment of Circles and Divisions.**

292. Rules for the Departmental Examination of Officers and Subordinates of the Public Works Department were drawn up and published. **Departmental examinations.**

Buildings.

Imperial Works.

293. Certain additions to and alterations in the shell store at Chandipur were nearly completed and the construction of a gun shelter in the same place was taken in hand. **Military works.**

Materials were collected for constructing a drain round the old Warrant Officer's quarters at Balasore and earthwork in excavation was done to a depth of 30 feet below ground level for a well in the Assistant Proof Officer's quarters.

294. The combined Post and Telegraph office at Monghyr was completed and the construction of the new combined office with subsidiary buildings and quarters for the staff in the new Capital at Patna was continued during the year. The combined offices at Motihari and Hajipur for which materials were collected last year, were put in hand, about 50 per cent. of the former being completed while the latter was approaching completion when the year closed. The combined office at Bhagalpur was nearly completed. The **Civil works. Post and Telegraph Offices.**

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

temporary Telephone Exchange buildings at Loyabad were finished and good progress was made with the construction of permanent buildings. A start was made with the new combined office at Gaya. Materials were collected for the combined office at Pakaur and additions and alterations made to the Post Office at Balasore. Minor works and improvements were carried out in the combined offices at Ranchi and Daltonganj, the Postmaster's quarters at Purulia, and the Post Offices at Gaya, Arrah, Nasriganj and Aurangabad. New quarters were built for the Postal Mail Clerk and Signaller of the combined office at Ranchi. The construction of quarters for the Sub-Postmaster of the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh and the combined office with Sub-Postmaster's quarters at Akhuapada was in progress. The staging huts attached to the combined office at Jajpur were rebuilt. A new electrically-controlled double-faced tower clock with a master clock and a span face inside the hall was erected at the Ranchi Post Office.

Church.

295. A pathway was constructed from the Saw Mill compound to the road to the Church at Gulzarbagh near Patna city.

Customs.

296. The work of erecting a flag staff for the Port office at Puri was taken up. The masts were obtained from Calcutta and were fitted up in the Jobra Workshops.

Miscellaneous.

297. In the Nepal Residency walls were constructed round the space in front of the Zenana quarters of the sepoy lines. At Pusa the work of extending the Library in room No. I ground-floor, Phipps' Laboratory, was finally completed and the construction of two more bungalows for the accommodation of European staff was well advanced. Additions and alterations were carried out to the clerks' quarters Nos. 1—3 and 5—10 and a canvas hose for the fire engine was provided. A plot of land was acquired for the staff quarters of the Mines Department at Dhanbad, the levelling and dressing of which were nearly completed. Twelve blocks of bachelors' quarters at Hinoo were converted into C type family quarters for the clerks of the Accountant-General and certain improvements were carried out to the old C type quarters and also to the Accountant-General's office at Doranda. Additions and alterations were carried out in the Opium Godown at Motihari occupied by the Settlement Department and the construction of a temporary shed for that Department at Gaya was taken in hand.

PROVINCIAL WORKS.

Court Buildings.

298. The Commissioner's Courts at Muzaffarpur and Bankipore, which were in progress during the previous year, were completed and that at Ranchi was improved. A new office was constructed for the Board of Revenue at Bankipore. Improvements were made in the Judge's Court at Chapra and the private chamber of the Judge was extended. The Judge's Court at Purulia was in course of construction. Additions and alterations were carried out to the Collector's Court at Monghyr and the Deputy Commissioner's Court at Purulia. Land with pucca buildings standing thereon was acquired at Monghyr for the Treasure Guards' quarters and the Deputy Commissioner's Court at Daltonganj was extended. A Malkhana was constructed for the Deputy Commissioner's Court at Ranchi. Good progress was made with the construction of the remaining wing of the Record-room in the Judge's Court at Purnea and the conversion of the existing Sessions Court into a District Judge's Court at Monghyr. The extension of the Collectorate Record-rooms at Muzaffarpur and Gaya and the construction of a room for forms and stationery in the Judge's Court at Chapra were taken in hand. Additional record racks were fitted up in the Judge's Record-room at Bankipore. The new Record-room for the Deputy Commissioner's Court at Hazaribagh was practically completed. Materials were collected for the construction of Vendors' stalls in the Kutchery compound at Balasore.

A beginning was made with the Subdivisional Court building at Bettiah and the extension of the Subdivisional Court and the construction of the Treasure Guards' quarters at Madhubani. The Subdivisional Court building at Jamui was nearly finished and the additional court building for the 2nd

officer at Aurangabad and the Subdivisional Court building at Simdega were in progress. Certain improvements were carried out to the Subdivisional Court at Bihar. Land was acquired for the extension of the Subdivisional Court at Buxar and improvements to the Court at Dinapur were in progress. Materials were collected for additions and alterations to the Subdivisional Court at Madhipura and the extension of the Subdivisional office at Jehanabad. A new Bench Court was built at Barh and a temporary court room at Chatra. Iron gratings were provided for the doors and windows of the Sub-Treasury at Aurangabad and the Treasure Guards' and Court constables' barracks at Bhadrak were finished. Some additional racks were provided in the City Magistrate's Court, Patna.

The Munsifis at Bargarh, Puri and Simdega were in progress. A witness-shed was constructed at Dhanbad and a wire-fencing was put up round the Munsif's Court compound at Raghunathpur. The new Munsif's Court at Aurangabad and the single Munsifi at Bhadrak were nearly completed and a ceiling was provided for the verandah of the Munsif's Court at Sasaram. A witness-shed was also constructed in the compound of the new Munsifi at Jajpur.

Circuit Houses.

299. The new Circuit House at Bhagalpur was approaching completion and the construction of one at Dhanbad and another at Sambalpur was taken up. Materials were collected for a Circuit House at Laheria Serai. The servants' quarters of the Circuit House at Puri were converted into a five-stalled stable and the ground-floor of the Circuit House at Daltonganj was improved.

Excise Buildings.

300. The liquor vat-shed and additions and alterations in the distillery buildings at Bettiah were completed. Materials were collected and work started on the construction of the *Ganja* Gola and Liquor godown at Bargarh. Other works of minor importance that were either completed or in progress are: improvements to the liquor depôt and Superintendent's quarters at Dhanbad, and providing stone flooring to the verandah and passage of the distillery buildings at Giridih.

Jails.

301. A verandah was constructed on the west of the double-storeyed barrack and quarters were built for two factory clerks in the Central Jail at Buxar. Additions and alterations in the Jail at Motihari and the extension of the Sambalpur District Jail were all practically completed. The Jail Hospital at Ranchi was in progress and materials were collected for additions and alterations to the Jail buildings at Muzaffarpur and for the construction of a hospital for the Daltonganj Jail.

The following works in connection with the Gaya Jail were either in progress or completed :—

(1) Additions and alterations to existing buildings, (2) water-supply, (3) electric installation in the Jail Press, (4) residence for the Deputy Superintendent of the Jail Press, (5) main entrance gate, armoury and Jailor's quarters, (6) separate Forms store, (7) providing racks in the new Forms block, (8) constructing Warders' quarters, (9) constructing a printing press, and (10) extension of the Press buildings.

Other works of minor importance that were taken up or completed during the year were: the addition of a verandah to the Jailor's quarters in the Bhagalpur Central Jail, constructing a rat-proof cage in the store godown of Purnea Jail, additions and alterations in the Dumka Jail, improvements to the Jail buildings at Chaibassa and Daltonganj, and the construction of a compound wall between the Jail garden and Judge's Court at Purulia.

The construction of a new Sub-Jail at Supaul and a double-storeyed barrack for the Sub-Jail at Bargarh and the extension of the Sub-Jail at Sasaram were completed while the Sub-Jails at Giridih, Chatra and Simdega were in progress.

Police.

302. The town out-post at Gaya, the new barracks for the Reserve Police at Bhagalpur and for the constables in the old Fort at Nathnagar and the Police hospital, and also a well and quarters for the Sub-Assistant Surgeon

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

at Chapra were completed. A plot of land was acquired for the construction of the Bankipore Kotwali Police-station. A start was made with the construction of a Police hospital and subsidiary buildings at Motihari and with the conversion of the existing hospital into a barrack and also of the Police lines at Chowliaganj (Cuttack) into the Constables' Training School. The reserve office with a store-room and armoury magazine and the new Reserve Police line barrack at Angul were finished. The Police-station buildings at Ambabhoua and Jhowganj, the barrack for ten married men at Doranda, the additional Police barrack at Ranchi and the two-storeyed barrack for the Reserve Police at Purnea were all completed. Progress was made with the construction of cubicles for 58 married constables and Head-constables at Angul, the hospital and subsidiary buildings in the old Fort at Nathnagar, the Police barrack with a work-shed at Simdega, the Police office and double-storeyed barrack at Sambalpur and the barrack for the temple and town Police at Puri. New buildings were built for the Police office at Balasore and the office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Cuttack. Land with a bungalow was acquired at Samastipur for the accommodation of the Railway Police Inspector and new quarters were built for the European Inspectors at Nathnagar, Jamalpur, Purnea, Ranchi and Gaya and for the Inspector at Latehar; while similar buildings at Arraria, Banka, Simdega and Puri were in progress. The three Sub-Inspectors' quarters in the old Fort at Nathnagar and the Sub-Inspectors' and Head-constable's quarters at Sakchi were finished and quarters for two Sub-Inspectors at Khaja-Kallan (Patna), the Sub-Assistant Surgeon attached to Police Hospital at Sambalpur, the Sub-Inspectors of the Sadr Police-station at Puri and the Sub-Inspector of Reserve Police at Angul and Bhabua were in progress.

Education.

303. Land was acquired and materials were collected for the Dharma Samaj Sanskrit College and proceedings were completed for the acquisition of two additional plots of land for the proposed Government College at Muzaffarpur. Land was also acquired for a new College at Bhagalpur, and the Diamond Jubilee College at Monghyr was purchased. Various improvements were carried out to the Patna College. The Training College at Bankipore was nearly completed and two new hostels for the Training College and School were also approaching completion. The land acquired in the previous year for the new educational buildings on the east of the Patna College was levelled and enclosed with a wall and wire fencing. Materials were collected for the construction of the new Ravenshaw College at Cuttack.

Considerable progress was made with the construction of a new Zila School and Training School with a hostel and Superintendent's quarters at Muzaffarpur, the Collegiate School with the Manual Training Workshop, Bankipore, the Zila School at Puri and the new school building with the Head-master's residence at Ranchi. The Zila Schools at Daltonganj, Gaya, Ranchi and Dumka were extended. The construction of eight class-rooms for the Northbrook School at Darbhanga and the extension of the Zila School at Purnea were well in hand. An additional workshop was erected in the Bihar School of Engineering and land was acquired for its extension. Certain improvements were carried out to the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh and an ophthalmic room and a mortuary were constructed in connection with the hospital. The combined scheme for the water-supply and drainage to the Central Jail and Reformatory School at Hazaribagh was finished; it was maintained by the Public Works Department for six months after which it was made over to the Jail authorities in March 1915.

The Training School at Kilaghat, the Training School with its practising school at Bankipore and those for Muhammadan Teachers at Patna City and Sheikhpura were all completed. Materials were collected for the Training School at Mirchagarh. Good progress was made with the Training School for Muhammadan Teachers and Hindu Hostel at Cuttack, the conversion of the old District Jail at Bhagalpur into a practising school and the Hindu and Muhammadan Superintendents' quarters at Gaya. Quarters were built for the Superintendents of hostels attached to the Patna Training School and the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh.

Drill-sheds were constructed in connection with the Zila Schools at Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Chapra, Motihari, Purnea, Dumka, Chaibassa, Sambalpur, Purulia, Daltonganj, Hazaribagh, Arrah and the Collegiate School at Patna, while those in connection with the Patna City School and Zila Schools at Puri, Gaya and Balasore were in progress. A plot of land was acquired for a play-ground for the Patna City School.

About thirteen new Guru Training Schools were newly built, thorough repairs were carried out to nine, and work on many others was started. Hostels and quarters for the Superintendents of Hostels, Head Pandits and Teachers of Guru Training Schools were constructed at several places in the Province. The office of the Deputy Inspector of Schools at Angul, which was in progress during the previous year, was completed and materials were collected for constructing a new office for the additional Inspector of Schools, Tirhut Division. The Middle English School at Pusa was finished.

304. The extension of the general hospital buildings at Bankipore with the scheme of water-supply for the hospital was taken up. The hostel buildings attached to the Temple Medical School, Bankipore, were re-roofed with double Allahabad tiles. The pathological museum in the above school was extended and the extra road and gate completed. The construction of an out-patients' block for the Patna hospital was in progress. The following works in connection with the Vaccine Depôt at Namkum (Ranchi) were completed during the year: (1) Vaccine Depôt and office building, (2) subsidiary buildings and sheds, (3) four Loaders' quarters, (4) Superintendent's (Assistant Surgeon's) quarters, (5) Deputy Sanitary Commissioner's residence, (6) Refrigerating chamber and plant, (7) arrangements for water-supply, and (8) paths, drains and culverts in the compound. A European Hospital with quarters for the nursing staff was built at Ranchi with accommodation for convalescent patients. The construction of wards for infectious diseases and a moribund patient ward in connection with the main hospital at Sambalpur and of the operation room and covered passage for the Daltonganj Dispensary, which were started during the previous year, was completed. A start was made with the construction of the Tuberculosis ward in the hospital and Sub-Assistant Surgeon's quarters at Ranchi. The floor of the hospital at Angul was renewed with one inch artificial stone and materials collected for a Tuberculosis ward at Bhagalpur. The new dispensary at Banpur with quarters for the medical officer and compounder, which was commenced last year, was completed. Residential buildings were also constructed for the Lady Doctor, teachers and Oriya nurses attached to the Central Hospital at Cuttack. Medical.

The construction of the Central Asylum for the European insanes at Kankey (Ranchi) and the sinking of a trial well in the bed of the Potpoto river to supply water to the Asylum were commenced and some materials were collected for the construction of an Indian Asylum at that place. Various improvements were carried out to the Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore, the hospital for female lunatics was completed, and a ward for male consumptive patients was begun.

The Civil Surgeon's office at Chapra was completed and materials were collected for the Civil Surgeon's office at Laheria Serai. Four third class mortuaries were completed at Jharsuguda, Giridih, Bhadrak and Simdega and two were commenced at Banki and Balandapara.

305. Additions and alterations were carried out in the Registration office at Monghyr and the Registration office at Laheria Serai was extended. Considerable progress was made with the construction of several new Sub-Registration offices: those at Barh, Nawada, Samastipur, Belsund, Parihar, Khurda and Mirganj were practically completed, and those at Sitamarhi, Khajowli, Hajipur, Supaul, Kissenganj and Jajpur were under construction. Materials were collected for Sub-Registration offices at Pipli, Debidole, Dhamnagar, Soro, Maharajganj, Gopalganj and Darauli and sites were selected for similar offices at Dinapur, Hilsa and Masauri. At Sewan the old Munsif's Court was converted into a Sub-Registration office and additions were made to the new Honorary Magistrate's Court at Bhabua for the accommodation of a similar office. Registration.

Monuments and Antiquities.

306. The sculpture-shed at Kanarak, which was commenced in the previous year, was completed and a copper lightning conductor was fitted to the Jagamohan Temple at Kanarak. The work of enclosing with a spiked railing the Gupta pillar in the Subdivisional Court compound at Bihar was taken up during the year. Special repairs were carried out to the temples and the Jagamohan of the Chitrakarini temple at Bhubaneswar, Hussain Sur Shah's tomb at Sasaram and the Mundeswari Temple at Chainpur. The causeway of Sher Shah's tomb at Sasaram was improved.

Burial grounds.

307. The extension of the cemetery at Daudpur which was in progress during the previous year was completed. The construction of a lychgate and compound wall for the cemetery at Dhanbad was commenced.

Residences for Lieutenant-Governor and Government officials.

308. Some minor improvements were carried out to the Government House at Chajjubagh. Additional servants' quarters were provided in the house acquired for the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Bankipore. The residence for the following officers were under construction or approaching completion when the year closed :—

District Superintendent of Police, Gaya.

Assistant Superintendent of Police, Kissenganj and Gumla.

Settlement Officer, Daltonganj.

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kankey (Ranchi).

Executive Engineer, Ranchi.

Inspector of Schools, Ranchi.

Principal and Professor of Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.

Subdivisional Officers, Bettiah, Beguserai, Dhanbad, Simdega, Bargarh and Phulbani.

Deputy Magistrates, Chaibassa, Puri, Balasore and Gaya.

European and Indian Deputy Magistrates, Hazaribagh.

Deputy Collectors, Laheria Serai (two), Motihari (two).

Second Officer, Deoghar.

Sub-Deputy Collectors, Samastipur, Sitamarhi, Hajipur, Bettiah, Simdega, Angul, Jajpur and Kendrapara.

Tahsildar and Assistant Tahsildar's quarters at Bargarh.

Munsifs' residences at Samastipur, Madhubani, Banka, Beguserai, Purnea, Bargarh, Hazaribagh, Puri, Kendrapara, Balasore and Buxar.

A house was acquired for the Senior Deputy Collector at Ranchi. Land was acquired for certain Public officers' residences at Kissenganj and for residences for the Deputy Collector and Munsif at Chapra. Materials were collected for constructing residences for the Principal and Vice-Principal of the Patna Training College, Headmaster of the Patna Collegiate School, Headmaster of the Ranchi Zila School, Superintendent of Police, Balasore, Deputy Collector at Chapra and Munsifs at Chapra and Gopalganj.

Special repairs were carried out to the Commissioner's residence at Patna and to Mrs. Keith's house acquired at Bankipore for the residence of the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle. The new residences for the Joint Magistrate at Ranchi and Sub-Deputy Collector at Aurangabad were completed. The work of providing accommodation for the clerical and menial establishments of the Chief Secretary was started at Puri.

Various works of additions or alterations were either in progress or completed in connection with the residences of the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, the District Judge of Monghyr, the Collector of Arrah, the Subdivisional Officers of Sitamarhi, Hajipur, Gopalganj and Bhabua, the Superintendent of Police, Darbhanga, the Munsif of Chatra, the District Superintendent of Police, Angul, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Cuttack and the Khas-Mahal Deputy Collector at Daltonganj.

Government buildings, Ranchi.

309. The extension of the filtered water-supply to Doranda from the well at Hinoo was completed. This scheme consists of pumping filtered water from

the Hinoo well by means of a force pump through a pipe line to low level reservoirs constructed in different centres in Doranda. The sectional areas of various delivery pipes are so arranged that all the reservoirs at the different levels will be filled at the same time. The water-supply is taken from the reservoirs by means of hand pumps.

The verandah, partition and bathroom walls of the staff quarters at Ranchi and Doranda were raised to the roof level and a garage was constructed for the former. Mr. Leslie's bungalow was extended and a motor-shed was provided to building No. 5 at Doranda. Certain A and B type quarters for clerks at Doranda were provided with *pucca* floors, while additions and alterations were carried out to the C type quarters for clerks at Hinoo. A wood floor was provided to the old Judicial Commissioner's residence at Ranchi, occupied by an Hon'ble Member of the Executive Council. Sheds were constructed at Ranchi for the Chaprasis of Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council and officials living in the vicinity.

Capital Works, Patna.

310. Considerable progress was made with the construction of Government House, the Secretariat Building and High Court. Five wells were nearly finished for the water-supply of Amlatola and experiments were made to gauge the discharge of some wells constructed for the water-supply of the new Capital. The old Commissioner's Court at Bankipore was converted into a residence for the Hon'ble Member of the Board of Revenue. Quarters were built for the Superintendent of the Waterworks and those for the Assistant Surgeon were approaching completion. A new dispensary building was constructed and nine sets of European Clerks' quarters, four sets of Indian Personal Assistants' quarters and quarters for the High Court staff were in course of construction.

In connection with the Press at Gulzarbagh, the fire hydrants, electric installation, Guards'-shed, a dispensary for the Press staff and European Press Assistants' quarters were finished and the construction of a 12-seated latrine and the conversion of the opium buildings into Indian bachelor assistants' quarters and of the first floor and ground-floor of opium godown No. 3 into the Press Superintendent's quarters and Press Office respectively, were taken up late in the year and were in progress.

Agricultural Buildings.

311. A sluice gate was constructed under the Saran Canal bank for the drainage of the Sepaya farm land. Two sets of quarters for the Assistant Indian Professors and a hospital and an isolation ward were built for the Agricultural College at Sabour, while quarters for the ministerial staff, roads, drains and the laying of pipe lines for water-supply to the clerks' quarters and the hospital were in progress. The following buildings were completed in connection with the Agricultural Farm at Kankey (Ranchi) :—

(1) Office building, (2) seed store building, (3) combined cattle-shed and carpenter's shop, (4) masonry wells, (5) a block of two sets of quarters for the Senior Overseers and the Senior clerk, (6) two blocks of quarters for the Junior Overseer and the Junior clerks, (7) a set of quarters for the Manager, (8) a block of quarters for eight peons, and (9) a block of quarters for fifteen ploughmen. The erection of a wire-fencing round the compound of the above farm and the construction of roads and drains were in progress.

Public Works Department Buildings.

312. A new office was built for the Superintending Engineer at Ranchi and the office of the Executive Engineer at Hazaribagh was extended.

Quarters were built for the Sub-overseers at Ranchi and Doranda, for the temporary Public Works Department staff at Simdega and Bargarh and for the peons at Pusa. The Sub-overseers' quarters in the Public Works Department godown at Bankipore were converted into quarters for the Subdivisional Officer and new quarters were built for the Sectional Officer at Bankipore. Arrangements were made for the construction of a combined office, godown and residence for the Subdivisional Officer at Purnea and for a combined Public Works Department godown, Sub-overseers' office, peon and chaukidars' shed and Sub-overseers' quarters at Bargarh. The Public Works Department godown attached to Government House at Ranchi was completed and a start was made on the construction of an engine-shed and a godown at Ranchi.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Miscellaneous.

313. Some of the opium buildings at Gulzarbagh were altered for the use of the Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office, and were provided with an electric installation. A godown in the Opium Factory at Gulzarbagh was converted into a Sanitary Laboratory. The construction of a new (Khas Mahal) market at Cuttack was commenced and materials were collected for deepening the drinking water tank in the Cantonment at that place.

Bricks were collected for the construction of an additional hostel for the Hindu students of the Patna College for which a sum of Rs. 15,600 was contributed by the Maharani of Hathwa. The hostels and other buildings connected with the Northbrook School at Darbhanga were in progress.

Contribution.

314. A statement of expenditure incurred on Original Works, Civil buildings, is given below:—

	Rs.
Land Revenue	2,93,220
Excise	14,499
Residences for Local Government	1,91,860
Secretariat offices	4,51,164
Political Agencies	816
Agricultural	86,119
Monuments and Antiquities	32,557
Educational	12,48,459
Ecclesiastical	5,514
Law and Justice	9,41,266
Jails	3,65,029
Police	3,87,018
Medical	8,39,845
Miscellaneous	3,88,753
Total ...	52,46,119

Communications.

315. The principal work on communications during the year under review was the improvements to the existing roads forming a through trunk road between Bihar and Orissa.

Improvements to the various sections of the existing roads and the construction of culverts thereon approached completion, while good progress was made on the important bridges under construction throughout this alignment. The road surface of the length between Bandgaon and Hessadih was improved. The work of regrading, soling and metalling the Hessadih-Tebo section of the Ranchi-Chaibassa road was practically completed, and the road was opened to motor traffic. The metalled width of the road between Chakradharpur and Chaibassa was increased, while the improvements to the Chaibassa-Jaintigarh road were in hand at the end of the year.

The bridge over the Barakar river in the 250th mile of the Grand Trunk road, and that over the Damodar river at Ramgarh in the 30th mile of the Ranchi-Hazaribagh road, which were in progress during the previous year, were finally completed and opened to traffic. The Damodar bridge connecting the two District Headquarters of Ranchi and Hazaribagh, was declared open by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 27th June 1914.

South of Ranchi towards Chaibassa bridges over (1) the Tajna, (2) the Deoganj, and (3) the Karanj rivers were completed. The construction of bridges over (1) the Lohargajudar, (2) the Chellendari, (3) the Jurisurgaon, (4) the Tebo, and (5) the Nakti rivers was practically completed during the year under report; while the bridges over (1) the Kanchi, (2) the Harnai, and (3) the Bamni rivers were in progress at the close of the year. The last important item of work at the southern end of this through route is the bridge over the Baitarani river at Jaintigarh forming the boundary between British territory

in the Singhbhum district and the Feudatory State of Keonjhar. An estimate amounting to Rs. 3,10,247 was sanctioned for the work, the cost being shared in equal proportions by Government and the Keonjhar State. The work has been taken in hand under the supervision of the Agency Engineer.

Of the ordinary works of communications during the year the major portion was carried out in Chota Nagpur and Orissa.

In Chota Nagpur some improvements to communications were made. The bridge over the Potpoto river on the Ranchi-Pithoria road was completed, thus affording easy access to the Lunatic Asylum buildings under construction at Kankey. The construction of two reinforced concrete bridges of 120 feet clear span over the Deonud and the Mangaldaha rivers on the Ranchi-Daltonganj road in the Palamau district was undertaken by the Public Works Department for the District Board, as these bridges are the first of their kind in the Province and the District Board have not the necessary expert staff to build them.

For the convenience of cart traffic one flank of all the provincial roads in the Chota Nagpur Division was widened. Good progress was made towards reconstructing and remodelling the old culverts on the entire length of the Ranchi-Chaibassa road. The metalled surface of the Barakar-Purulia road in miles 5—11 was resectioned during the year. With a view to bridging the Chas-Gulbera road in the Manbhum district the two streams crossing it were surveyed. A proposal to construct a high level bridge over the stream lying between Ranchi and Doranda in the 3rd mile of the Ranchi-Chaibassa road was administratively approved, and detailed plans and estimate are under preparation.

In Orissa good progress was made towards the construction of the Malati bridge on the Sambalpur-Cuttack road. The construction of the bridges and causeways on the Sambalpur-Sonepur road was practically completed. The works of (1) raising the Jharsuguda approach road from Class IIA to Class IA, and (2) metalling the Bargarh-Bolangir and Jharsuguda-Bhosma roads were in progress when the year closed. The improvements to the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, 2nd section, 1st portion, were completed, while those to the 2nd and 3rd portions were in progress. The construction of the bridge over the Salindi river at Bhadrak was taken in hand during the year.

Projects for improving (1) the Angul-Tikerpara road from $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the 36th mile, and (2) the Raipur-Sambalpur road, 2nd section, and for constructing bridges on the 1st section of the Angul-Tikerpara road and a bridge over the Burabalang river on the Orissa Trunk road, received the approval of Government; materials were also collected for making a start on the improvements of the Angul-Tikerpara road.

The Bihar districts only contain short lengths of Provincial roads, except in the case of the Grand Trunk road, and no important works were done in these districts. The construction of roads within the area of the Capital at Patna was completed. A project for constructing a new road from the site of the Capital at Patna to the Dinapur Cantonment was administratively approved.

Dâk and Inspection Bungalows and rest-sheds throughout the Province were kept in good repair. The Inspection Bungalow at Karody on the Cuttack-Sonepur road was completed, while the construction of the bungalows at Bagnadi and Telibund on the same road were in progress. Some improvements were carried out to the Dâk Bungalows at Chaibassa and Puri and a motor-shed was added to the Inspection Bungalow at Hazaribagh. The Dâk Bungalow at Tulin on the Ranchi-Purulia road was converted into an Inspection Bungalow and the existing Inspection Bungalow was allowed to be used as a Subordinates' rest-shed. The Inspection Bungalow at Dhanbad was transferred to the District Board of Manbhum for use as a Dâk Bungalow. A five-feet diameter well was sunk in the compound of the Inspection Bungalow at Bargarh. At Jehanabad on the Grand Trunk road quarters were built for the local Sectional Officer.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The construction of a new Inspection Bungalow at Jamtara in the Santal Parganas district has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 14,100. Rest-sheds at Opa and Kuru on the Ranchi-Daltonganj road, at Saraya on the road to Bagodar, and at Chowparan on the Grand Trunk road, were completed.

The planting and maintaining of trees on the sides of important roads were carried out, and nurseries were maintained as far as funds permitted.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

Protective works.

316. Some protective works were carried out during the year under review.

The brick revetment which was started last year to protect the right bank of the river Ganges in front of the Temple Medical School and Training School at Bankipore was finished. The bank opposite the Temple at the north-east corner of the Judge's Court at Bankipore was also revetted during the year.

The improvement of the drainage system in the Court compound at Bhadrak, undertaken during the previous year, was continued. Progress was made in the construction of the embankment on the south side of the Sainthia road to protect the civil buildings at that place.

Electric Supply.

317. A license under section 3 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 (IX of 1910), was granted to Messrs. A. V. Gifkins and Company to supply electrical energy in the existing towns of Patna City and Bankipore, and also in the area included in the new Capital at Patna. As the Bengal Coal-fields Power Company, Limited, failed to perform the obligations imposed upon them by the license granted to them by the Government of Bengal, to supply electrical energy in certain portions of the Burdwan and Manbhum districts, it was revoked by the Government of Bihar and Orissa, so far as it applied to the district of Manbhum. Similar action had been taken in the matter by the Government of Bengal in regard to the Burdwan district.

Water-Supply.

318. Certain additional works were carried out for extending the water-supply from the Water works at Hinoo to the Government quarters at Doranda.

As a contribution work, the Public Works Department took up the improvement of Sher Shah's tank at Sasaram at a cost of Rs. 19,963.

Sanitary Improvements.

319. As a sanitary improvement, the tank in front of the Cutchery buildings at Sambalpur was filled in at a cost of Rs. 6,750.

The reconstruction of the market in the abandoned cantonment, now a Khas-Mahal, at Cuttack at a cost of Rs. 31,940, was taken up during the year and nearly half the work was done.

Railways.

Administration.

320. None of the Railways in the Province are entirely under the control of the Government of Bihar and Orissa. The Government of India in the Railway Department (Railway Board) control the more important lines, while the following Light Railway lines of local importance are subject to a certain measure of control by the Government of Bihar and Orissa :—

		Gauge.	Mileage.
(1) Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway	...	2′ 6″	65·26
(2) Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway	...	2′ 6″	33·00
(3) Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway	...	2′ 6″	23·83
			122·09

Additions to mileage.

321. During the year 1914-15, 25·77 miles of new Railway lines were opened to traffic as under :—

Standard gauge (5′ 6″).

	Miles.
Bengal-Nagpur Railway—	
Bhowrah Branch to Pathardih link	0·62

Connection of Bengal-Nagpur and East Indian Railways at Nunudih—

	Miles.
Standard gauge (5′6″).	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway's own line	0·93
Bengal-Nagpur and East Indian Railways' joint line	0·21
	1·76
2′ 6″ *gauge.*	
Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway—	
Sasaram to Tarachandi	4·76
2′ 0″ *gauge.*	
Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Extensions—	
Kissenganj to Islampur-Aluabari	19·25
	25·77

With these additions the total mileage open on 31st March 1915 was as follows:—

	Miles.
Standard gauge	1,680·80
Metre gauge	1,143·16
2′ 6″ gauge	269·31
2′ 0″ gauge	19·25
	3,112·52

322. The following lines were under construction during the year:— **Lines sanctioned and under construction.**

5′ 6″ *gauge.*

Bengal-Nagpur Railway—

	Miles.
Chandrapura to Bermo	11·62
Bengal-Nagpur and East Indian Railways' joint line at Nunudih	0·25
	11·87
Metre gauge.	
Tirhut State Railway—	
Rosera Ghat to Khagaria	35·08
	46·95

No new line of railway was sanctioned for construction during the year under review.

323. The following surveys were completed during the year:— **Surveys completed.**

	Gauge.	Miles.
Futwah-Islampur Railway	2′ 6″	27
Hazaribagh Road-Hazaribagh Railway ...	2′ 6″	41
		68

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

324. Authority was given by the Railway Board to undertake the following surveys during the year under review :—

Surveys sanctioned.

(1) *To the Eastern Bengal Railway Administration.*—For Purnea and Dinajpur Districts Railway Survey, a reconnaissance survey of the country lying between the Borsai-Kissenganj Branch and the Parbatipur-Siliguri Line and that between the Forbesganj Branch and the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway.

(2) *To the East Indian Railway Administration.*—A reconnaissance survey for a line of Railway from Monghyr, a station on the East Indian Railway *viâ* Baraipur, Kurruchpoor and Gaighat to Jamui, a distance of about 46 miles.

(3) *To the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company.*—Lohardaga Extension reconnaissance survey (from Lohardaga to Jaithari Station on the Katni Branch of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, with branch to Lafa Coal-field on the 2-ft. 6-in. gauge).

(4) *To the Bengal and North-Western Railway.*—For Gorakhpur and Champaran Districts. [Detailed survey of lines (1) from Captainganj to Thumthibari *viâ* Maharajganj, a distance of about 42 miles; (2) from Captainganj to Bhatni, a distance of about 42 miles; (3) from Maharajganj to Nautanwa *viâ* Bridgmanganj, a distance of about 44 miles, and (4) from Bagaha to Tribeni, a distance of about 24 miles.]

(5) *To Messrs. Martin and Company of Calcutta.*—Sainthia-Naya Dumka Railway. [Detailed survey for a line of railway on the 2-ft. 6-in. gauge from Sainthia on the East Indian Railway to Naya Dumka, a distance of about 41 miles.]

(6) *To the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Extension Company.*—A detailed survey of Thakurganj-Sikti Railway, a distance of about 44 miles.

Accidents.

325. On the 29th September 1914, while No. 81 Up Parcels Express was standing on No. 1 Up Platform line at Madhupur, the incoming engine of No. 2 Down Mail came along the same line from the east end and collided with the rear of 81 Up. Four persons, including the driver and fireman of 81 Up, sustained slight injuries.

After No. 1 Up Mixed of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway left Silao Station on the 30th April 1914, and when it was running between miles 28 and 29, a covered goods wagon, which was the 17th vehicle from the engine, got derailed owing to an axle and three axle-boxes having been broken. No passenger was injured.

On the 11th October 1914, an old woman was run over and killed by No. 4 Down of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway at mile 19/11, near Bihar Station.

On the 24th October 1914, a blind man, having attempted to cross the line in front of Train No. 5 Up Mixed of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway between miles 3 and 4, near Chero Station, was knocked down by the engine and slightly injured.

On the 29th October 1914, a bearing spring of a loaded covered goods wagon broke while running on No. 6 Down Mixed of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway at mile 5, near Chero Station, and the wagon was derailed while being hand-shunted to Chero to be put into a dead siding, causing a detention of one hour and 28 minutes to the train. No person was injured.

A girl, aged six years, fell out of an Inter-class carriage on No. 1 Up Mixed of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway on the 8th December 1914, near Bakhtiyarpur, and was injured. The child subsequently recovered.

On 29th January 1915, the leading wheels of a loaded high-sided truck attached to No. 5 Up Mixed train of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway

were derailed at Telegraph post Nos. 4/10, near Chero Station. No person was injured.

On the 5th March 1915, the leading wheels of a loaded covered goods wagon attached to No. 4 Down Mixed train of the Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway were derailed at mile 18, Bihar Kutchery Station. No person was injured.

On the 13th November 1914, an attempt was made by some unknown persons to wreck No. 1 Up Punjab Mail between Mihijam and Jamtara by taking out the fish-plates and fittings of the outer rail and the fish-plates of the inner rail at Bridge No. 560. The matter is under Police investigation.

326. During the year His Majesty's Secretary of State came to an agreement with the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company for the extension of the lease of the Tirhut State Railway to the Company under which the Tirhut State Line will continue under their management, at least until 1932. **Miscellaneous important matters.**

The Railway Board have been giving special consideration to the question of the assistance which can be rendered by railways in the development of indigenous industries by the quotation of favourable rates for the carriage of raw material required in the manufacture and the carriage of the finished product.

Canals—Irrigation and Navigation.

[Administration Report of Irrigation Works for the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part III—Commercial Services.]

327. The transactions of the Irrigation Department for the year 1914-15, so far as they relate to works of Irrigation and Navigation, are shown in the following statement. Works which afford protection from flood or which facilitate drainage are reviewed separately and are not noticed in this report : — **Capital and Revenue Accounts.**

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

HEADS.	Amount of Construction Estimate.	Expenditure during 1914-15.	Expenditure to end of 1914-15.	Balance for expenditure from 1st April 1915.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Protective Irrigation Works—				
Direct charges	82,54,224	1,56,813	78,04,151	4,50,073
Indirect charges ...	2,26,721	4,587	2,16,678	10,043
Total ...	84,80,945	1,61,400	80,20,829	4,60,116
Minor Irrigation Works—				
Direct charges	5,26,08,495	85,239	5,23,76,889	2,31,606
Indirect charges ...	15,25,735	1,913	15,29,440	—3,705
Total ...	5,41,34,230	87,152	5,39,06,329	2,27,901
Minor Works and Navigation—				
Direct charges	50,59,345	...	50,57,620	1,725
Indirect charges ...	1,34,539	...	1,34,539	
Total ...	51,93,884	...	51,92,159	1,725

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

HEADS.	Receipts.	WORKING EXPENSES.			Net Revenue.
		Direct.	Indirect.	Total Working Expenses.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS* ...	24,35,283	14,09,879	1,07,823	15,17,702	9,17,581
Minor Works and Navigation—					
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.	16,099	40,846	2,047	42,893	—26,794
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.	...	...	...	...	...
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.	3,599	2,815	...	2,815	784

*Inclusive of the Dhaka and the Tribeni Canals.

Classification of Irrigation and Navigation Works.

328. The classification of the works dealt with in this review is as follows:—

Account 35.—*Protective Irrigation Works.*—The works comprised in this class are the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals for which projects were sanctioned in the year 1900-01. The construction estimate of the Tribeni Canal was closed on the 31st March 1914. A schedule of sanctioned works which were either incomplete or not begun on the 1st April 1914 has been submitted for sanction of the Government of India. The Dhaka Canal has been completed and is in operation. Both the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals are intended only for irrigation and do not admit of navigation. A third revised estimate of the Tribeni Canal, amounting to Rs. 78,49,661, including indirect charges, has been sanctioned by His Majesty's Secretary of State. The Canal was opened for irrigation down to the 59th mile during the year under review. The revenue account is shown under head "42" which is a divided head, half Provincial and half Imperial, the interest charges being wholly Imperial. The revised estimate, amounting to Rs. 6,09,191 for the Dhaka Canal, was sanctioned by the Government of India in May 1905. The construction estimate of this canal was closed from the 31st March 1908 and a schedule of sanctioned works which were either incomplete or not begun on the 1st April 1908, was sanctioned by the Government of India. The date for the completion of these works, originally fixed at the 31st March 1910, was subsequently extended to the 31st March 1912, and again to the 31st March 1913 and finally to the 31st March 1914, when the schedule was closed and further original works are now charged to Capital "43" or Extensions and Improvements "42".

Account 49.—*Major Works.*—In these are included the Orissa and the Sone Canals. These canals are constructed for irrigation and navigation. The original capital accounts have been closed and all present capital outlay is charged against the head "43—Minor Works and Navigation". The Revenue Account is shown under the head "42—Major Works—Working Expenses". Both these heads are now equally divided between Provincial and Imperial.

Account 43.—*Minor Works and Navigation.*—

(I) The works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept are the Saran Canals for irrigation and the Orissa Coast Canal for navigation. The Saran Canals have been closed since the 1st April 1894. Forty-five miles of the Orissa Coast Canal are in the Presidency of Bengal and 84¾ miles in the Province of Bihar and Orissa. As in the previous year, this report treats of the whole canal.

(II) There are no works in this Province for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.

(III) There is one work for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept, *viz.*, the Madhuban (Teur) Canal in the Gandak Circle which was constructed for irrigation only.

The transactions of the year for each of the above works are briefly stated in the following summary compiled by circles of superintendence:—

ORISSA CIRCLE.

MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS (PRODUCTIVE).

Orissa Canals.

329. The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the capital account of the Orissa Canals during the year was Rs. 74,504. The total capital outlay for direct charges to the end of the year stands at Rs. 2,64,43,797. **Capital Account.**

330. During the year the following works were in progress or completed:— **Works in progress.**

On the High Level Canal one minor distributary was completed and another was in progress; also the extension of a minor distributary was nearly completed.

On the Machgaon Canal construction of one distributary and two minor distributaries was completed.

On the Taldanda Canal the extension of a distributary and two minor distributaries was completed.

On the Gobri Canal land was acquired for a minor distributary.

On the Pattamundi Canal, right bank, some progress was made on the construction of a minor distributary.

On the Jajpur Canal a minor distributary was nearly completed.

The work of (1) widening and raising the crest of the right bank of the Jajpur Canal from Malandapara to Burra Kharsua left embankment, and (2) raising the Burra Kharsua left embankment three feet above the high flood level of 1907 was still in progress; about three-fourths of the work were done ineach case.

Land in the bed of the Brahmini river for a distance of three-fourths of a mile upstream of the anicut was acquired during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,730; some extra land lying upstream of the Mahanadi anicut was also acquired. The expenditure to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 5,697.

The construction of permanent outlets in the Gobri Extension Canal and its distributaries was fully completed and similar work in the Pattamundi Canal and its distributaries was very nearly completed.

The reconstruction of the Burra weir was completed in the portion measuring 253½ feet, which was carried away by the extraordinary flood of the 1st August 1913. A revised estimate, amounting to Rs. 2,54,284, inclusive of indirect charges, was sanctioned for the work by the Government of India.

331. During the year nearly 11·02 miles of distributaries and minor channels were added, chiefly on the Machgaon Canal. **Length of distributaries.**

332. The average rainfall of the year at the thirteen recording stations on the Orissa Canals was 66·82 inches against 64·80 inches in 1913-14 and 54·45 inches in 1912-13. The fall was above the normal and up to the end of August the distribution was good. During the first half of September the rain was abnormally heavy and continuous, but after the 25th September there was practically no rain until the end of February. The heavy rain in September brought on insects, the failure of rain in October damaged the crops on unirrigated lands, and the absence of rain in November, December and January spoilt the *rabi*. On the whole, the rainfall of the year was unfavourably distributed. **Rainfall.**

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Irrigation.

333. The area irrigated during the year was 282,564 acres against 279,095 acres in the preceding year, the increase being in the *kharif* area. The supply of water in the rivers during October was good and there was no difficulty in irrigating the whole area under lease, with the exception of a few villages in the Jagatsingpur subdivision where the supply was interfered with owing to the erosion of a distributary and its flood bank by the Daib river at the end of September.

The amount assessed for water-rates during the year was Rs. 4,42,117 against Rs. 4,22,178 of the previous year. Practically the whole of the demand for 1914-15 was collected within the year, but a sum of Rs. 2,838, which was paid on the 31st March, could not be paid into the Treasury within the year and was shown as arrears.

Navigation receipts.

334. The receipts from navigation tolls on the Orissa Canals were Rs. 69,906 against Rs. 73,991 in the previous year. The decrease is almost entirely due to the cessation of exports on account of the war.

Financial results.

335. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) during the year were Rs. 5,43,507, and Rs. 5,95,281 respectively, against Rs. 5,19,732 and Rs. 5,41,566 of the previous year, the result being a net deficit of Rs. 51,774 against the deficit of Rs. 21,834 of the preceding year.

The decrease in the net revenue, in spite of an increase in receipts, is due to increased expenditure on the maintenance of the canals on account of repairing the damages caused by the floods of the previous year.

Closure of canals.

336. During the year under review the following closures took place for annual repairs :—

Name of Canal.	From	To
Taldanda Canal ...	15th April 1914	19th May 1914.
Machgaon Canal ...	15th April 1914	19th May 1914.
Kendrapara Canal and branches	21st May 1914	Kendrapara Canal up to Bosepur from Jagatpur and the Gobri, Gobri extension and Pattamundi canals remained closed up to the 22nd June (evening). Kendrapara Canal from Bosepur to Marshaghai remained closed up to the 23rd June (evening). The portion from Marshaghai to Jamboo was not closed.
High Level Canal, Range I	10th May 1914	21st June 1914.
Ditto ditto III	10th April 1914	5th June 1914.

The High Level Canal, Range II, and Jajpur Canal were not closed during the year.

Floods.

337. There were no severe storms or high floods during the year. Early in August the Mahanadi in Sambalpur rose to within a few inches of the maximum recorded and a heavy flood was expected at Cuttack, but owing to the rivers entering below Sambalpur not being in flood, the rise at Cuttack was only moderate.

Minor Works and Navigation.

Orissa Coast Canal.

338. The Orissa Coast Canal lies partly within the Presidency of Bengal and partly within the Province of Bihar and Orissa. The Ballyghai drain, the surface drainage sluice and its channel leading into the Rasulpur river from Range III, the Bhaitgarh Lock, 27 miles of Range III and seven miles of the Contai Branch Canal constitute the canal works within the Presidency of Bengal. Nine miles of Range III, Ranges IV-A, IV-B, and V, a total length of 84¾ miles, lie in the Bihar and Orissa Province. The Government of India have approved of the proposals of the Local Government that the control of the Orissa Coast Canal should be divided between the Governments of Bengal and

Bihar and Orissa, each Government being responsible for the length lying within its own boundaries.* They have also approved of the apportionment of the Capital cost and the Revenue receipts and charges of the canal between the two Governments concerned. This arrangement takes effect from 1915-16. The report for the year under review is written for the whole of the Orissa Coast Canal system as was done in the previous years 1911-12, 1912-13 and 1913-14.

There was no outlay chargeable to the capital account of the canal during the year. The total capital outlay (direct charges) to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 43,70,737.

The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 14,108 and Rs. 39,825 against Rs. 18,284 and Rs. 72,033, respectively, of the preceding year, the details of which are tabulated below:—

	1913-14	1914-15	
	Rs.	Rs.	
Receipts	18,284	14,108	For the whole canal.
Expenditure	72,033	39,825	For the whole canal.

	1913-14		1914-15	
	Bengal.	Bihar & Orissa.	Bengal.	Bihar & Orissa.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	11,484	6,800	9,700	4,408
Expenditure ...	28,840	43,173	13,288	26,537

The traffic on the canal during the year diminished owing to the crop being poor and also to the cessation of exports on account of the war.

The maintenance charge was, however, also smaller than last year, as less dredging was done than usual owing to the dredger being under repairs.

339. There were no high floods in any of the rivers crossed by the canal during the year. There were two moderate floods in May and September, but they did no damage to the canal and embankments or to the standing crop. **Floods.**

SONE CIRCLE.

MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS (PRODUCTIVE).

Sone Canals.

340. Under head "43—Minor Works and Navigation" (1) a Minor Distributary at Baluhauri for the irrigation of *rabi* fields of certain villages in the Basawan subdivision of the Buxar division, and (2) the Khakarha Minor Distributary from the Kochus Distributary of the Chowsa Branch canal, were in progress during the year. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,640 and Rs. 363 respectively. The construction of the Dehora Sub-Distributary and the acquisition and conversion into a minor of the Lalganj village channel were also carried out. The total Capital outlay (direct charges) up to the end of 1914-15 was Rs. 2,59,33,092, of which Rs. 10,735 represented the expenditure of the year. **Capital account.**

341. The average rainfall of the twelve stations in the three divisions was 35·82 inches compared with the averages of 33·83 inches and 52·11 inches in the years 1912-13 and 1913-14 respectively. The rainfall of the year was comparatively poor and failed completely from the beginning of the *hathiya* up to maturing of the paddy crop. **Rainfall.**

342. The area irrigated during the year was 625,852 acres against 530,438 acres in the preceding year. There was great demand for canal water in October owing to the total cessation of rain during the month. The increase in the areas irrigated, especially under *rabi*, was due to the unfavourable season. **Irrigation.**

The demand for water-rates falling due during the year amounted to Rs. 16,28,124 against Rs. 18,62,278 of the preceding year. The decrease is due to the area of *rabi* irrigated during 1913-14 (of which the season leases

are credited to 1914-15 revenues) being considerably less than that of the previous year 1912-13. The balance unrealised at the end of the year was Rs. 77 only, after remitting or writing off Rs. 640.

There was a general enhancement of water-rates on the Sone Canals by annas 8 per acre for season leases as well as for leases for a term of years. The *rabi* rates were not increased. The order for enhancement took effect from the 26th March 1915.

Navigation receipts.

343. The navigation receipts during the year were Rs. 21,041 against Rs. 25,343 of the previous year, and an average of Rs. 21,579 of the previous five years.

Financial results.

344. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 17,30,006 and Rs. 7,36,551 against Rs. 19,55,098 and Rs. 7,84,000 respectively of the previous year, giving a net revenue of Rs. 9,93,455 against Rs. 11,71,098 of the preceding year. The decrease in gross receipts, in spite of an increase in the area irrigated, is chiefly due to the small area of *rabi* irrigated in the previous year (1913-14), the water-rates of which were collected in the year under review.

The establishment charges (Direction, Executive and Revenue) fell from Rs. 4,24,168 in 1913-14 to Rs. 3,91,913 in the year under review.

Floods.

345. There was no very high flood in the river nor any specially heavy rainfall during the year under review.

Flushing operation.

346. Two flushes were run in the Main Western Canal and three in the Main Eastern Canal in the months of July, August and September. The result was satisfactory for both the canals. There was a deposit of 6,391,024 c.ft. and 1,458,976 c.ft., respectively, in the first five miles of the Main Western Canal and first two miles of the Main Eastern Canal at the beginning of the season against 5,880,600 c.ft. and 1,344,684 c.ft. at the end of the season. The quantity of silt removed by flushing is considerably more than was flushed out last year, the figures being—

	1913-14 C.ft.	1914-15 C.ft.
Main Western Canal (difference, less) ...	453,960	510,424
Main Eastern Canal (difference, less) ...	73,623	114,292

Protective Irrigation Works.

347. Under head "35—Construction of Protective Irrigation Works" a scheme for the irrigation of rice-lands in the Bhabua subdivision of the Shahabad district from the Karamnasa river in the Benares State was considered and a rough estimate, amounting to Rs. 7,44,231 including indirect charge, was submitted to the Government of India for approval. Some additional survey work in connection with the project, sanctioned by the Government of India, was undertaken by Mr. J. G. Powell, Executive Engineer, and an expenditure of Rs. 4,797 was incurred.

GANDAK CIRCLE.

Protective Irrigation Works.

Tribeni and Dhaka Canals.

348. The expenditure (direct charges) on the Tribeni Canal was Rs. 1,55,577 and on the Dhaka Canal Rs. 1,236. The progress made with these canals up to 31st March 1915 was as follows:—

Tribeni Canal.

Canal Works.

349. The excavation of the full length of the main canal, *viz.*, 61¼ miles, was completed. The principal masonry works of the main canal, with the exception of the Harpatbeni and Rangi culverts, were also completed and arrangements made for reconstructing the Rohua culvert, a portion of which was destroyed during the rains of this year.

350. The distributary system down to mile 58½ of the Canal was completed except for some portions of the Lauria, Ramauli and Belwa distributaries. The remaining length of the Lauria Distributary was nearly finished and that of the Belwa Distributary was begun. Acquisition proceedings were begun for the land required for the head portion of the Ramauli branch of the Lauria Distributary. There are still two more distributaries to be constructed on the Canal, *viz.*, the Rangi and the Deulia. The estimate for the former was under preparation and that of the latter was sanctioned. **Distributaries.**

351. The Canal was opened for irrigation down to mile 58½. The construction estimate was closed on the 31st March 1914 and a schedule of sanctioned works, which were either incomplete or had not been begun on the 1st April 1914, was prepared for sanction of the Government of India. **Opening of Canal.**

352. The rainfall was above the average during August, but failed to a very great extent in September and October. The total for July, August, September and October was 53·47 against 42·29, the average of the previous triennium for the same months. **Rainfall.**

353. The total area irrigated during the year under review was 76,138 acres against 41,435 acres in the preceding year. **Irrigation.**

In the *kharif* season the failure of *hathiya* rainfall gave rise to a very high demand for canal water throughout the area commanded by the canal. The outturn of the crops on the areas irrigated by the canal was good, while the rice of unirrigated areas in the immediate neighbourhood was almost an absolute failure, so that the canal demonstrated its usefulness as a protective work most effectually.

In the *rabi* season there was no demand for canal water, partly because a very small area was sown with *rabi* crop, and partly because there was a favourable fall of rain during the latter part of the season. In the hot weather season also there was no demand.

354. The amount realised on account of water-rates was Rs. 1,39,544 against Rs. 80,776 in the previous year. The amount spent on maintenance was Rs. 42,497, exclusive of establishment, and the total expenditure, including direct and indirect charges, amounted to Rs. 1,68,278 against receipts of Rs. 1,40,233 showing a deficit of Rs. 28,045 against a net revenue of Rs. 30,072 in the preceding year. This does not include interest on capital which remains an Imperial charge. **Water-rates.**

The deficit revenue is due to the work being charged with an increased proportion of the whole divisional and supervising establishment (Rs. 90,981 against Rs. 26,100 in 1913-14), in consequence of the Champaran division being made a Revenue instead of a Capital division.

The water-rates were realised as usual by the establishment maintained under the Collector but paid by the Public Works Department.

In the year under review steps were taken to prepare the project for extending the canal as recommended in the Irrigation Commission's Report of 1901 to 1903.

Dhaka Canal.

355. The construction estimate of the Dhaka Canal Project was closed on the 31st March 1908. Some minor works, such as village channels, cattle crossings, etc., and other extensions and improvements were included in the schedule of incomplete works. The capital account of the project was finally closed in March 1914. **Capital Account.**

Under "43—Minor Works and Navigation" an expenditure of Rs. 1,056 was incurred on the work of constructing the Bura Sankor village channel with its head Regulator. The total capital outlay (direct charges) up to the end of 1914-15 was Rs. 5,70,830, of which Rs. 1,236 represented the expenditure of the year.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Financial results.

356. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) of the canal were Rs. 21,537 and Rs. 17,592, respectively, against Rs. 10,499 and Rs. 19,011 in the preceding year, giving a net revenue of Rs. 3,945 against a deficit of Rs. 8,512 in the previous year. The increase in revenue was chiefly brought about by deficient rainfall in June which brought the canal water into great request.

Rainfall.

357. The rainfall of the year under review was 58·30 inches against 72·59 inches of the previous year. It was scanty in June and July, but so heavy in August as to cause a certain amount of damage to both canal and crops.

Irrigation.

358. The total area irrigated from the Dhaka Canal was 11,330 acres against 3,465 acres in the preceding year. The increase was due to the ill-distributed rainfall of the year and the consequent demand for canal water throughout the *kharif*, *rabi* and hot weather seasons. The area leased during the hot weather season was the highest on record, being 619 acres against 36 acres in the previous year.

Water-rates.

359. The water-rates of the Dhaka Canal, as in the case of the Tribeni Canal, were realised by the establishment maintained under the Collector and paid for by the Public Works Department.

Minor Works and Navigation.

WORKS FOR WHICH CAPITAL AND REVENUE ACCOUNTS ARE KEPT.

Saran Canals.

360. The Saran Canals come under this head. They are nineteen miles (or 24·05 miles including minor channels) in length and have practically remained closed since 1894. They are, however, opened and closed occasionally on the application of the Hathwa Raj or of Factory Managers who pay for the cost of making and removing the dams in the canals which are required for the supply of water. In the year under review only the Gandaki head was opened at the request of the proprietors of the Suddowa Concern and other land-owners for irrigation during the month of August 1914. No record of areasirrigated is kept.

Financial.

361. There was no capital outlay on the canals during the year under review. The maintenance charges exclusive of the cost of establishment amounted to Rs. 1,920 against Rs. 1,628 in the preceding year.

The revenue derived was Rs. 1,991 against Rs. 512 of the previous year. The proposal to abandon the Saran Canals is under consideration.

WORKS FOR WHICH NEITHER CAPITAL NOR REVENUE ACCOUNTS ARE KEPT.

Teur (Madhuban) Canal.

362. The Teur (Madhuban) Canal is the only work of this class. It is 6·25 miles in length with one distributary (Lakhaura) 6·30 miles long. The canal was maintained in good order in the year under review at a total cost of Rs. 1,788 exclusive of the cost of establishment against Rs. 4,090 in the preceding year. No original works were carried out.

Area irrigated.

363. The total area irrigated during the year, inclusive of the *zirat* land of the Madhuban zamindar, which was irrigated free of charge, was 1,936 acres against 1,340 acres in the preceding year. The demand for canal water was high in the latter part of both *kharif* and *rabi* seasons owing to deficient rainfall. The revenue derived from the canal during the year was Rs. 3,599 against Rs. 2,865 in the preceding year.

During the year under review a scheme was considered, prepared by Mr. Sibold, Executive Engineer, for the irrigation of thanas Jamui, Sikander and Sheikpura of the Monghyr district by storing the water of the Kiul river by means of a dam near Fatehpur. Further investigation will have to be undertaken before the scheme can be put forward as a complete project.

Embankment and Drainage.

[The Embankment and Drainage Reports for the year 1914-15.]

Classification of Embankments.

364. The embankments are divided into four classes :—

A—Embankments maintained by Government in Orissa.

B—Schedule D and other Government Embankments.

C—Embankments maintained by Government under contract with zamindars.

D—Embankments maintained by Government with an annual apportionment of charges on estates benefited.

Expenditure.

365. The expenditure on works and repairs during the year (exclusive of the book charges of establishment and tools and plant) amounted to Rs. 1,65,057 against Rs. 1,62,750 in the preceding year.

Length of Embankments.

366. The total length of embankments of all classes maintained by Government in the Province was 816 miles and 4,496 feet protecting an area of 7,611 square miles, excluding 3 miles 3,171 feet of the Bankipore-Dinapur Road which has been declared as a Schedule D Embankment by notification, and which gives protection to an area of 16 square miles.

In the Orissa Circle the river Mahanadi at Sambalpur was in very high flood during the first week of August. The floods experienced in the delta and in other rivers were, however, all rather below normal except that the readings on the lower parts of the Noona and Chitertolla branches of the Mahanadi were equal to, or above, all previous records. This points to a deterioration in the outfall of these channels.

Floods.

367. In the Gandak Circle again there was no particularly high flood in any of the rivers and none of the embankments was seriously damaged. Some slight damage occurred in the 30th and 32nd miles of the Champaran and in the 12th, 13th, 14th and 19th miles of the Tirhut Embankment. The wire sausage protective works on the Daudpur embankment suffered considerably.

In the Eastern Circle there was a very high flood in the Chandan river at Bhagalpur on the 2nd September 1914, but no breaches occurred.

Breaches.

368. In the Orissa Circle breaches occurred in the Daib right embankment No. 2-B., and in the Managuni right embankment No. 30-B. A portion of the new retired line on the Chitertolla right embankment No. 56-E, Class B, at Nuapara was washed away, and also the spur bund at Benipur which was under construction. A small breach also occurred near the 4th mile of the Paika left embankment No. 61-C, Class B, and the breach of last year was widened a little. There were some small breaches in the 4th and 5th miles of the Surlake embankment, which runs along a low ridge dividing two low-lying areas. In the Gandak Circle a portion of the Champaran embankment in the 30th and 32nd miles was washed away. The old breach in the 13th mile of the Gupta Bund and erosion at its tail increased considerably during the year, a further length of almost a mile in all being carried away.

The Daudpur embankment was also slightly breached, but as this was just at the island, water was retained in the lake to a very fair height without difficulty.

No breaches occurred in the Eastern Circle.

Surveys and Investigations.

369. In the Orissa Circle investigations were made for constructing an embankment on the right bank of the Burrabolong river and for a sluice in the 5th mile of the Bhogari embankment No. IB, for drainage purposes. Surveys were also made and sections taken in connection with the construction of a retired line on embankment No. 56-C, Class B, Chitertolla right embankment for closing the Ghais on the right and left banks of the Mahanadi at Banki.

In the Gandak Circle surveys were made for retired lines at the 21st and 34th miles of the Saran embankment and at the 8th mile of Charki No. 1. Surveys were also undertaken during the year for a retired line from the 23rd to the 27th mile of the Tirhut embankment.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

In the Eastern Circle investigations were carried on for determining the area of the private lands in the area brought under the Embankment Act (Bengal Act II of 1882) under Government Notification, dated the 19th February 1914, which are likely to be affected by the demolition of the private sluices at Kurji and Rajapur and the bund at Durja which were proclaimed under Government Notification, dated the 8th March 1915.

Original works.

370. The outlay on original works during the year was Rs. 15,657. This was chiefly incurred in connection with the raising of the crest of the Utikan embankment, and the completion of the rubble weir across Tanti Ghai, both in the Orissa Circle.

Repairs.

371. Heavy expenditure had to be incurred on repairs in the Balasore district owing to the floods of 1913 and on revetting the river bank from the old Machgaon Canal to Groyne No. 2 at Bogla in the Orissa Circle. Expenditure was also incurred on the Malahia retired line in the Champaran embankment and between mile 16½ and mile 19 in the Tirhut embankment.

The total amount expended on repairs was Rs. 1,49,400 against Rs. 1,40,676 in the preceding year.

Drainage.

372. In the Eastern Circle two out of the three proposed outfall channels for improving the drainage of the new Capital area were undertaken and nearly completed. Also an obstructing bund in village Durja was removed.

There are no drainage works in the Province constructed under the Bengal Drainage, Sanitary Drainage or Embankment Acts, excepting a small scheme known as the Rajmahal drainage scheme, completed in 1902 and maintained by the Civil Officers under the Bengal Drainage Act, VI of 1880.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

373. The following statement shows the Imperial revenue and expenditure for the year 1914-1915 as compared with those of 1913-1914 :— **Imperial Receipts and Expenditure.**

RECEIPTS.

[*Figures are in thousands of rupees.*]

Heads.	1913-14	1914-15	Actuals 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than actuals 1913-14.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land Revenue	76,62	70,04	—6,58
II.—Opium	4,15	3,86	—29
III.—Salt	1	1	...
IV.—Stamps	33,82	34,02	+20
V.—Excise	28,15	28,98	+83
VII.—Customs	1,14	23	—91
VIII.—Assessed taxes	6,92	7,12	+20
XI.—Tributes	86	85	—1
XII.—Interest	1	6	+5
XXII.—Receipts in aid of superannuation ...	77	89	+12
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	...	1	+1
XXV.—Miscellaneous	17	15	—2
XXIX.—Irrigation Major Works—Direct receipts.	12,88	12,23	—65
XXX.—Irrigation Minor Works and Navigation—			
By Civil Department	26	26	...
By Public Works Department ...	10	11	+1
XXXI.—Civil Works	24	25	+1
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	—45,25	—37,52	+7,73
Total ...	1,20,85	1,21,55	+70

EXPENDITURE.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Heads.	1913-14	1914-15	Actuals 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than actuals 193-14.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Refunds and Drawbacks	58	46	+12
2. Assignments	74	54	+20
3. Land Revenue	9,34	10,95	—1,61
5. Salt	70	72	—2
6. Stamps	1,07	1,10	—3
7. Excise	1,38	1,41	—3
9. Customs	17	16	+1
10. Income-Tax	23	23	...
14. Interest on other obligations	68	83	—15
18. General Administration	2,64	2,65	—1
23. Ecclesiastical	32	33	—1
26. Scientific and other Miscellaneous Departments.	11	...	+11
27. Territorial and Political Pensions ...	41	31	+10
28. Civil Furlough and Absentee allowance ...	...	1	—1
29. Superannuation allowances and pensions ...	3	3	...
30. Stationery and Printing	13	15	—2
32. Miscellaneous	16	14	+2
35. Protective Irrigation Works	4,90	1,72	+3,18
42. Irrigation Major Works—Working expenses	6,51	7,10	—59
42. Irrigation Major Works—Interest on Debts	11,43	11,96	—53
43. Minor Works and Navigation—			
By Civil Department	2	3	—1
By Public Works Department ...	2,43	1,67	+76
45. Civil Works	2,08	3,94	—1,86
49. Outlay on Irrigation Works	—15	...	—15
Total ...	45,91	46,44	—53

Receipts.—There was a net increase of 70 only as compared with the actuals for 1913-14. The large decrease under Land Revenue was due to smaller recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges, that under Opium was due to less supply of opium to certain districts on account of restrictions imposed on issues to retail shops and the slump in the jute trade. The fall in Customs Revenue was due to smaller exports from the Orissa ports on account of poor harvests in that Division and was also partly due to the war. The decrease in Irrigation receipts was due to a smaller demand for water for *rabi* irrigation. But the decrease under the above head was more than made up for by better receipts under Stamp, Excise, Income-tax and particularly less subventions from Imperial to Provincial Revenues.

Expenditure.—As compared with the previous year there was a net increase of 53 only during the year under review. Increases occurred under Land Revenue, Irrigation—Major Works and Civil Works (Public Works Department). The increase under Land Revenue was due to larger expenditure on Survey and Settlement and that under Civil Works due to a larger expenditure on Postal and Telegraph Department buildings. The remarkable decrease under Protective Irrigation Works was due to a smaller expenditure on the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals, the Capital Accounts of which were closed on 31st March 1914.

Land Revenue.

[*See* Chapter II of this Report.]

Canal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of this Report—Canals.]

Sources of Revenue other than Land.

Customs.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*), Finance and Revenue.]

374. The total revenue realised during the year under report was Rs. 1,11,959, against Rs. 2,17,529 in the previous year, and the net revenue deducting refunds, was Rs. 1,08,641, against Rs. 2,06,767. There was thus a marked decrease compared with the figures of the preceding year. The falling off occurred in all the districts and was due to poor harvests and the general dislocation of trade by the outbreak of the war. The decline in Puri was also partly due to less export of rice to the foreign port of Colombo on account of the low market for dutiable articles. Customs Revenue.

There was a decrease of Rs. 13,946 in the duty on bonded salt as compared with the preceding year. This was due to the fact that some of the local merchants round Kendrapara and Jajpur in the Cuttack district gave up purchasing salt from Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Company and imported in bags direct from Calcutta. The decrease in the import of duty-bearing salt was counterbalanced by an increase of 27,942 maunds in the import of duty-paid salt. The total refunds on export amounted to Rs. 3,318, against Rs. 10,762 of the previous year.

375. In Balasore there were six prosecutions of boats plying without a license against sixteen in the preceding year. A sum of Rs. 14 was realised as fines against Rs. 32 in the previous year. Breach of Customs Laws.

376. No proceedings were taken under the Act in any of the districts of the Province during the year under review. Indian Merchandise Marks Act.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Salt.

[Report on the Administration of the Salt Department of Bihar and Orissa during the year 1914-15.]

Imports.

377. As in previous years, there was no direct importation of salt from foreign countries into any of the ports in this Province. There are only two bonded warehouses, both at Chandbali in the district of Balasore and both owned by Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co. Foreign salt is imported into these warehouses from Calcutta salt *golas*. The total quantity of salt imported was 81,986 maunds as compared with 108,000 maunds in 1913-14 and 118,980 maunds in 1912-13.

The total imports fell short of those in 1913-14 by 26,014 maunds and of the quantity imported in 1912-13 by 36,994 maunds. The fall is said to be due to a steady growth in imports of duty-paid salt from Calcutta by rail and canal. As in 1913-14, there was practically no issue of salt during the year under review to the Jajpur and Kendrapara subdivisions of Cuttack which used in previous years to take supplies from the bonded warehouses at Chandbali. Some merchants of these places have been importing duty-paid salt direct from Calcutta by rail and canal and in order to compete with them Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co. have opened a Sub-Agency at Kendrapara to which they send duty-paid salt direct from Calcutta.

Consumption and prices.

378. The quantity of salt consumed in Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and the Feudatory States that take their supplies of salt from Orissa was 1,070,167 maunds as against 1,345,163 maunds in the previous year. The average consumption per head was lower by one seer and eleven chitaks than in 1913-14. Figures for other portions of the Province are not available.

Salt sold much dearer during the year than in the previous year, the increase in price being explained by the war in the case of foreign salt, and in the case of Madras salt, by a shorter outturn owing to early rains. This furnishes the chief explanation for the decrease in the average consumption of salt per head, as compared with the previous year. Another factor contributing to the decrease is reported to be diminution of purchasing power of people in Puri on account of a bad harvest.

Liverpool salt was sold at Chandbali in Balasore at rates varying from Rs. 4-5-0 to Rs. 5-11-6 for a bag of two maunds during the year against Rs. 3-10-0 to Rs. 3-11-6 in the previous year. The abnormal increase in price is due to the war. The average wholesale price of a maund of salt (Liverpool or Madras) inclusive of duty was Rs. 2-6-0 a maund as against Rs. 2-2-4 a maund in 1913-14.

Preventive measures.

379. The total number of offences against the Salt Law reported during 1914-15 was 79 against 42 in the previous year. The increase occurred wholly in Balasore and was due to a very poor outturn of food crops and increased retail prices of salt. Out of the 79 cases reported 32 remained undetected and in eighteen others the offenders were found to be very poor or very old and they were let off with warnings. Only the remaining 29 cases were sent up for trial, all from the district of Balasore; of these fourteen were disposed of during the year and all ended in the conviction of the accused persons. Fifteen cases were pending at the close of the year. The total number of cases in which salt or salt-earth was seized was 47 against 31 in the previous year; the quantity of salt seized was two maunds against nine maunds in the previous year. There were seven cases of unsuccessful house searches against none in the previous year. The want of success in so many as seven house searches is believed to have been due partly to wrong information received and partly to the offenders having come to know the presence of the search party who had been halting in the neighbourhood before proceeding to the search.

Receipts and charges.

380. As in previous years, duty on salt imported under bond from Calcutta into the warehouses at Chandbali in Balasore was credited in Calcutta under the head "Customs duty on Salt". Similarly duty on Madras salt imported into Orissa was paid in Madras. There was thus no realisation in this Province on account of duty on salt. The only receipts were on account of sale

proceeds of old stores and materials Rs. 355, and miscellaneous Rs. 1,116. The expenditure of the Salt Department furnished by the District Officers amounted to Rs. 72,038 against Rs. 66,111 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 5,927.

381. The number of saltpetre refineries in Bihar was 205 against 213 in the previous year. The total quantity of crude saltpetre dissolved was 338,827 maunds and that of refined saltpetre produced was 222,123 maunds against 260,094 maunds and 185,373 maunds, respectively, in 1913-14. The quantity of salt educed in the manufacture and refinement of saltpetre was 24,885 maunds, out of which 20,075 maunds were removed on payment of duty against 17,156 maunds removed in 1913-14. **Trade in saltpetre.**

Excise.

[Report on the Administration of the Excise Department, Bihar and Orissa, for 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*)—Finance and Revenue.]

382. The most important administrative changes which took place during the year were:—(1) the extension, as an experimental measure, to rural areas in the Chota Nagpur Division, of the system of Advisory Committees for the ascertainment of local opinion regarding the location and number of liquor shops; (2) the abolition, as an experimental measure, of restrictions on maximum prices for retail sale of country spirit in the district of Saran and three of the four subdivisions of the Bhagalpur district; (3) the extension to the districts of Balasore and Puri of the system of restricted issues of opium to retail shops with a view to reducing local consumption; (4) the abolition of the block patrol system except in the saline tracts of Orissa; (5) the prohibition of sale of country spirit before 10 o'clock in the morning; (6) the revision of rates of duty on country spirit in several districts; and (7) the enhancement of rate of duty on *charas* from Rs. 12 to Rs. 30 per seer. **Administrative changes.**

383. Local Advisory Committees were appointed in all the municipal towns to advise the Collectors on proposals regarding the number and situation of liquor shops to be settled for the year 1915-16. The non-official element was fully represented on all these committees. In deference to their recommendations one country spirit shop and six *tari* shops were closed, and the sites of six country spirit shops, one imported liquor shop, two outstills and nineteen *tari* shops were changed. Advisory Committees were formed, as an experimental measure, in the Chota Nagpur Division for the rural areas also. The Deputy Commissioner was the President in every case, and the Subdivisional Officers (except in Palamau and Singhbhum where there are no subdivisions), the Excise Deputy Collectors and two representatives from the District Board (Road Cess Committee in the district of Singhbhum) were members of the Committee in every district. Other members of the Committees consisted of a representative from the Dublin University Mission and one from the Giridih Local Board, in Hazaribagh; a representative each from the Anglican Mission, the German Mission, the Roman Catholic Mission, the Doranda Station Committee and the Chota Nagpur Landholders' Association, in Ranchi; a representative each from the Roman Catholic Mission, the Anglican Mission and the Chota Nagpur Landholders' Association, in Palamau; a representative each from the Mining Board of Health and the District Association and two members from the Dhanbad Local Board, in Manbhum; and a representative each from the Anglican and German Lutheran Missions in Singhbhum. Recommendations by the Committees consisted chiefly of suggestions for removing outstills from prominent sites. **Local Advisory Committees.**

384. The total result has been a fall of Rs. 2⅔ lakhs, the most striking feature being a net decrease of over three lakhs in the fees for settlement of country spirit shops for which the issue of strict orders enjoining Collectors to discourage speculative bidding appears to have been largely responsible. In the Chota Nagpur Division, which contributes nearly one-half of the decrease, however, depression in the lac and mica trades has been a very important factor. **Result of settlements.**

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Revenue.

385. The excise revenue of the year amounted in round figures to nearly 116 lakhs of rupees against one crore and twelve and-a-half lakhs of rupees, showing an increase of $3\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs over the preceding year. The revenue consisted of Rs. 50 lakhs in duty and Rs. $65\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs in license fees against $47\frac{3}{4}$ and $64\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The increase was contributed by every head except *opium*, *charas*, cocaine and miscellaneous. Country spirit, *ganja*, *tari* and opium account for 50·44 per cent., 22·27 per cent., 12·14 per cent., and 12·80 per cent., respectively, of the total revenue of the year. The incidence of total excise revenue was five annas four pies per head of the population against five annas two pies in the preceding year.

Country spirit.

386. The total revenue under the contract supply system amounted to Rs. 44,83,570 as against Rs. 42,40,850 in the previous year, while the revenue from outstills amounted to Rs. 13,64,451 as against Rs. 13,76,940. The distillery system was extended during the year only to a small area in the district of Ranchi. The fall in consumption of 92,754 gallons or 7·95 per cent. of the previous year's consumption, is a matter of satisfaction, even though it be admitted that trade depression and crop failure were responsible for much of it. The number of licenses for the retail of country spirit (contract and outstill) was reduced from 2,050 in 1913-14 to 2,005 in 1914-15.

Revision of rates of duty.

387. Considerable changes in the rates of duty on country spirit were effected from the 1st April 1914. The rates remained unchanged in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Sambalpur and Ranchi, were reduced in the Sadr subdivision of Manbhum, and increased in all other areas.

Maximum and minimum prices.

388. As a necessary sequel to revision of rates of duty, maximum prices for retail of country spirit were also considerably modified.

Restrictions in the shape of maximum prices for retail sale were abolished in the towns of Monghyr, Jamalpur, Bhagalpur, Purnea, Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Purulia. Orders were issued, as an experimental measure, abolishing maximum prices in rural areas in the district of Saran and the Sadr, Banka and Madhipura subdivisions of Bhagalpur. Licensees in Bhagalpur were told by inspecting officers that it was not to their interest to charge exorbitant prices and this, it is reported, has the effect of bringing down the retail price of 70 U. P. spirit to Rs. 2 per gallon in all parts of the district uniformly. Orders fixing minimum prices in the towns of Chapra, Sambalpur, and Giridih continued in force during the year under review and served to prevent any unhealthy competition between rival licensees.

Tari.

389. The yield of *tari* in the Province as a whole during the year was below the normal. Considerable reductions were again made in the number of *tari* shops in most districts, the provincial total falling to 6,710 shops, or 502 less than in the previous year. The revenue, however, continued to expand rapidly, the year's income being nearly Rs. 70,000 more than the 1913-14 figures of Rs. 13,37,787.

Pachwai.

390. The total revenue derived from license fees for the retail sale and home-brewing of *pachwai* increased from Rs. 1,51,743 in 1913-14 to Rs. 1,52,617 in 1914-15. The most interesting feature during the year under this head was the drop of 234 in the number of home-brewing licenses in Purnea, which is ascribed to the unwillingness of the aboriginal tribes to take out licenses on account of the rise in the price of common rice from which *pachwai* is manufactured. The experimental closing of *pachwai* shops in certain areas of the Santal Parganas is being given a further trial and the Board of Revenue has directed a systematic investigation into the influence of this measure upon the consumption of country spirit, with a view to determine whether the shops now closed experimentally cannot be dispensed with finally.

Foreign liquors.

391. Foreign liquors do not play a very important part in the Excise administration of Bihar and Orissa and showed no special feature in 1914-15. The revenue from license fees during the year amounted to Rs. 35,414 as against Rs. 35,228 in 1913-14. The revenue from license fees for the retail and possession of denatured spirit amounted to Rs. 392 as against Rs. 401 in the previous year.

392. There was a net increase of only 35 maunds in the quantity of *ganja* consumed in the Province during the year, while the revenue increased by more than Rs. 60,000 largely as the result of heavier exports to Nepal, but there was a marked fall (39 maunds) in Purnea due to the slump in jute. On the other hand, the increased sales of about 26 maunds in Shahabad are said to be due to purchase by consumers from the neighbouring areas in the United Provinces where the retail prices are much higher. The question of increasing the rate of duty on *ganja* in the districts of Shahabad, Saran and Champaran from the 1st April 1916 is under consideration. In Sambalpur the *goladari* system worked successfully, and has now been adopted as a permanent measure. *Ganja.*

393. The total consumption in the Province fell to 510 maunds, or 16½ maunds less than in the previous year; the local variations were of no special significance. The total revenue from *bhang* (duty and license fees) amounted to Rs. 59,863 as against Rs. 59,398 in 1913-14. *Bhang.*

394. The total revenue from *charas* amounted to Rs. 304 derived solely from license fees as against Rs. 790 (Rs. 784 from license fees and Rs. 6 from duty) in the preceding year. The consumption of *charas* during the year amounted to only 23 seers 10 chitaks as against 29 seers 14 chitaks in 1913-14. *Charas.*

395. There was a very marked decrease in consumption during the year of over 83 maunds, representing 8·62 per cent. of the previous year's figures, to which 13 out of the 21 districts in the Province contributed. The falls were heaviest in Patna, Purnea, Ranchi, Monghyr, Puri, and Balasore. In the last three districts and in Patna restrictions imposed on issues to retail shops explain the decrease in consumption. The restrictive system has recently been subjected to careful examination and the conclusion arrived at is that it has, on the whole, been attended with unsatisfactory results. It is exceedingly difficult to estimate the normal requirements of a shop especially in areas favoured by smugglers, and the restrictions imposed are apt to raise the retail price of opium and thereby to cause hardship to the legitimate consumers, for whom, particularly in Orissa, the use of the drug is a matter of necessity. It has accordingly been decided to abandon the restrictive system as far as possible. The total revenue amounted to Rs. 14,84,326 or Rs. 22,252 less than in the previous year, the fall in the receipts under duty, owing to smaller consumption, more than balancing an increase of over Rs. 51,000 under license fees. Opium.

396. In spite of the stringent rules regulating the import, possession and sale of cocaine, the cocaine habit does not appear to be on the decline, and several District Officers have expressed the belief that there has been no decrease in the number of persons who earn their livelihood by illicit trade in cocaine. It had been thought at one time that one effect of the war would be a stoppage of import of this pernicious drug from Germany, the principal source of supply, but apparently smugglers have the same facilities as before for obtaining cocaine, although it is reported that the prices which they have to pay have increased considerably. Practically all cocaine that was seized was of German manufacture. Special preventive staffs have been appointed in Bihar with a view to the suppression of cocaine-smuggling. Arrangements were also made during the year for securing closer co-operation with the railway authorities in the prevention of cocaine-smuggling and detection of cocaine cases, and they have been supplied with lists of suspected consignors and consignees. Since the close of the year orders have been received from the Government of India for the prohibition of transmission by inland post of cocaine and cocaine drugs. It is to be hoped that these various measures will operate to curtail facilities for smuggling and so arrest the development of the cocaine habit. Cocaine and its congeners.

397. One thousand nine hundred and two persons were prosecuted for offences against the Excise and Opium Acts, or 45 less than in the preceding year. There was a marked increase in the number of arrests in the Santal Parganas (38), Ranchi (51) and Palamau (31) while the number fell off considerably in the districts of Champaran (45), Angul (26), Patna (33) and Excise offences.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Singhbhum (40). The large number of *tari* cases sent up during the year under report was responsible for the increase in the Santal Parganas. In Ranchi the increase was entirely due to a large number of cases of illicit possession of country spirit, chiefly outstill liquor; a few of these cases represented attempts to smuggle outstill liquor into the distillery area, but in the great majority of cases the liquor had been intended for sale within the outstill area. In Palamau the detection of a large number of cases of illicit distillation and of illicit possession of country spirit accounts for the increase. The proportion of conviction to arrests was 89 per cent. against 88 per cent. in 1913-14. The number of persons sentenced to imprisonment during the year increased from 392 to 411, accompanied by an increase of Rs. 4,540 in the amount of fines imposed. The punishments inflicted were generally adequate.

Stamps.

[Annual Statistics of the Stamp Department for the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*), Finance and Revenue].

Revenue.

398. The revenue under the Stamp and Court-Fees Acts amounted to Rs. 67,43,275 against Rs. 67,03,479 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 39,796. There was an increase of revenue under "Judicial "stamps, which was, however, partly counterbalanced by a decrease under "Non-Judicial" stamps.

Judicial Stamps.

399. Receipts from the sale of court-fee stamps (excluding stamps for copies) increased from Rs. 48,05,981 in 1913-14 to Rs. 48,74,356 in 1914-15. The increase is attributed mainly to the progress of Survey and Settlement operations and the purchase of stamps for probate by certain large estates.

Non-Judicial Stamps.

400. There was a net decrease of Rs. 21,252 in the receipts from the sale of Non-Judicial stamps. The revenue derived from the sale of impressed stamps amounted to Rs. 13,46,424 against Rs. 13,63,537 in the preceding year. The decrease was contributed mainly by the districts of Sambalpur, Champaran, Darbhanga and Purnea. In Sambalpur, it was due to less demand from the Feudatory States for over-printed stamps; in Champaran, to the execution in the previous year of a large number of agreements by the tenants of certain Indigo Factories for payment of enhanced rent; in Darbhanga, to the registration of documents involving interests of smaller value; and in Purnea, to the decline in the jute trade.

Sale of Stamps.

401. The total number of vendors licensed to sell Judicial and Non-Judicial stamps was 1,274 against 1,272 in the preceding year. The discount allowed exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 2,632, as a natural result of increased sales.

Deficit Duty.

402. The total number of cases in which deficit duty and penalty were levied by the Civil Courts during the year fell from 1,104 to 949, while there was a very slight increase in the duty and penalty realised. There was a decrease of 37 in the number of cases decided and an increase of Rs. 346 in the duty and penalty realised by Revenue Officers as compared with the corresponding figures of the previous year.

Prosecutions under the Stamp Act.

403. The number of cases instituted for the infringement of the provisions of the Stamp Act, fell from 99 in 1913-14 to eighteen in 1914-15. The number of persons brought to trial was eighteen as compared with 100 in the preceding year. The fines imposed, including composition money, fell from Rs. 727 to Rs. 187. In the previous year the district of Purnea had contributed 86 cases to the provincial total, but in the year under report the number of cases in this district fell to eleven only, as a result of an inquiry into the necessity for the apparently abnormal number of cases in that district.

Working of Section 19H of the Court-Fees Act.

404. Enquiries were made in 84·6 per cent. of the cases of valuation of estates for the issue of probate or letters of administration reported to Collectors during the year, the corresponding percentage of the previous year being 91·38. The deficit court-fees required aggregated only Rs. 1,100, the original fees paid in the cases inquired into being Rs. 82,326.

Income-Tax.

[Statistics regarding the Income-Tax Department, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part IV (b)—Finance and Revenue.]

405. The receipts, charges and net revenue of the year were Rs. 14,25,927, Rs. 45,706 and Rs. 13,80,221, respectively. The net revenue showed an increase of 2·8 per cent. as compared with the year 1913-14. **Financial results.**

406. The total collections in respect of the year's assessment showed an increase of Rs. 54,289, or 4·5 per cent. over the collections of the preceding year. The increase was shared by all districts except Muzaffarpur, Purnea, Balasore, Hazaribagh and Ranchi, in none of which was the decrease at all serious. **Collections.**

407. The final number of assessees for 1914-15 shows an increase of 304, or 1·6 per cent., while the final demand rose by Rs. 49,495 or 4·2 per cent. The number of assessees under Part IV paying on an income of more than Rs. 1,000 and less than Rs. 1,250, fell from 5,771 to 5,755. The percentage of collection on the final demand was 98·8 as against 98·7 in the previous year. The prescribed standard of 95 per cent. was reached in all districts, except Hazaribagh. **Assessment.**

Forest Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of this Report.]

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Provincial Finance.

Receipts and Expenditure.

408. The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Service for 1914-15 as compared with those of 1913-14:—

[*Figures are in thousands of rupees.*]

Receipts.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Accounts 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than accounts 1913-14.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Principal heads of Revenue—			
I.—Land Revenue	87,37	86,18	—1,19
IV.—Stamps	33,81	34,02	+21
V.—Excise	84,45	86,95	+2,50
VI.—Provincial Rates	1,68	1,26	—42
VIII.—Income-Tax	6,93	7,12	+19
IX.—Forests	4,92	5,50	+58
X.—Registration	6,29	6,47	+18
Total ...	2,25,45	2,27,50	+2,05
XII.—Interest	2,22	1,82	—40
Receipts by Civil Departments—			
XVI-A.—Law and Justice—Courts ...	2,70	2,96	+26
XVI-B.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	7,26	7,03	—23
XVII.—Police	46	40	—6
XIX.—Education	2,70	3,00	+30
XX.—Medical...	14	19	+5
XXI-A.—Agriculture	25	18	—4
XXI-B.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.		3	
Total ...	13,51	13,79	+28
Miscellaneous—			
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	24	31	+7
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	29	30	+1
XXV.—Miscellaneous	2,65	4,03	+1,38
Total ...	3,18	4,64	+1,46

Receipts.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Accounts 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than accounts 1913-14.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Irrigation—			
XXIX.—Major Works—Direct Receipts, Public Works Department.	12,88	12,23	—65
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—			
(*a*) Civil	26	25	—1
(*b*) Public Works	10	11	+1
Total ...	13,24	12,59	—65
Other Public Works—			
XXXI.—Civil Works—Civil	1,30	1,34	+4
Public Works	2,24	2,41	+17
Total ...	3,54	3,75	+21
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues	45,25	37,52	—7,73
Total Revenue ...	3,06,39	3,01,61	—4,78
Direct demands on the Revenue—			
1.—Refunds and Drawbacks	74	61	+13
2.—Assignments and Compensations ...	74	55	+19
Total ...	1,48	1,16	+32
Charges in respect of collections—			
3.—Land Revenue	24,54	24,70	—16
6.—Stamps	1,08	1,10	—2
7.—Excise	4,12	4,24	—12
8.—Provincial Rates	...	...	...
10.—Income-Tax	22	22	...
11.—Forest	3,56	3,84	—28
12.—Registration	3,33	3,66	—33
Total ...	36,85	37,76	—91

Expenditure.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Accounts 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than accounts 1913-14.
1	2	3	4
Interest—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
13.—Interest on ordinary debts	1,02	1,05	—3
Salaries and expenses of Civil Departments—			
18.—General Administration	13,47	13,46	+1
19-A.—Law and Justice—Courts ...	32,98	35,31	—2,33
19-B.—Law and Justice—Jails	14,54	14,80	—26
20.—Police	45,77	47,23	—1,46
21.—Ports and Pilotage	1	1	...
22.—Education	38,35	36,88	+1,47
24.—Medical	9,14	10,03	—89
25.—Political	65	57	+8
26-A.—Agriculture 26-B.—Scientific and other Miscellaneous Departments. ...	4,77	4,73 26	—22
Total ...	1,59,68	1,63,28	—3,60
Miscellaneous Civil charges—			
29.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	9,08	9,21	—13
30.—Stationery and Printing	3,16	5,55	—2,39
32.—Miscellaneous	1,35	1,41	—6
Total ...	13,59	16,17	—2,58
Famine Relief and Insurance—			
36.—Reduction or avoidance of debt ...	2,00	2,00	...
Irrigation—			
42.—Irrigation—Major Works—			
Working expenses	6,51	7,11	—60
Interest on debt	8,77	9,06	—29
43.—Minor Works and Navigation—			
Civil	3	2	+1
Public Works	2,42	1,66	+76
Total ...	17,73	17,85	—12

Expenditure.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Actuals, 1914-15.	Accounts 1914-15 better (+) or worse (—) than accounts 1913-14.
1	2	3	4
Other Public Works—	Rs.	Rs.	
45.—Civil Works—			
Civil	20,48	16,19	+4,29
Public Works	62,76	83,46	—20,70
Total ...	83,24	99,65	—16,41
Total Expenditure ...	3,15,59	3,38,92	—23,33

409. *Receipts.*—There was a net decrease of 478 as compared with the actuals for 1913-14. The decrease is to be attributed mainly to smaller receipts under Land Revenue, Provincial Rates, Interest, Irrigation—Major Works and also to less subventions from Imperial to Provincial Revenues. Recovery of arrears and advance collections of ordinary revenue in 1913-14, accounts for the decrease under Land Revenue. The decrease in Irrigation receipts was due to a smaller demand for water for *rabi* irrigation. The decrease under the above heads was partly counter-balanced by larger receipts under Stamps, Excise, Income-Tax, Forests, Registration, Law and Justice—Courts of Law, Education, Miscellaneous and Civil Works. Under Excise, the improvement was due to better receipts from Duty on Country Spirits and *ganja* and License fees. The large extraction of timber from the forests in the Singhbhum Division by the Bengal Timber Trading Co. accounts for the increase under Forests. Under Miscellaneous there were large receipts from Unclaimed Deposits, Law Charges other than in Pauper Suits, and in connection with the readjustment of the outstanding credit balance under Zamindari Embankment Advances. **Variations.**

Expenditure.—The net increase in 1914-15 compared with 1913-14 was 23,33, the most important variations occurring under the following heads :—

	Rs.
Increase—	
Law and Justice—Courts of Law	2,33
Police	1,46
Medical	89
Stationery and Printing	2,39
Irrigation—Major Works	89
Civil Works (Public Works Department)	20,70
Total ...	28,66
Decrease—	
Education	1,47
Minor Works and Navigation (Public Works Department)	76
Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers	4,29
Total ...	6,52

The increase under Law and Justice—Courts of Law, was mainly due to the adjustment of certain charges under Criminal Courts in full instead of in moieties between this head and Land Revenue, and to larger expenditure under Civil and Sessions Courts and Law officers. The increase under the latter was chiefly on account of larger expenditure on fees to pleaders in criminal cases. Under Police there was larger expenditure on the Police force. Smaller recoveries from Local Bodies on account of services of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons and larger

13302

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

expenditure on Vaccination and Travelling Dispensaries account for the increase under Medical. The starting of the Gaya Forms Press is the cause of the increase under Stationery and Printing. Under Irrigation—Major Works there was larger expenditure on the Tribeni Canal and on Interest on Debt owing to raising of the rate of interest. Larger expenditure on the new Capital works at Bankipore, the European Lunatic Asylum at Ranchi and on Educational and other Departmental buildings caused the large increase under Civil Works (Public Works Department). There was, however, smaller expenditure under Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers and Education on account of smaller contributions from Provincial Revenues to Local Bodies. The decrease under Minor Works and Navigation was due chiefly to smaller outlay on the reconstruction of the Burra Weir and other Minor Works.

Local Finance.

Balance.

410. The following table shows the income and expenditure and the opening and the closing balances of the various Local Funds in the Province for the year 1914-15 :—

Name of Funds.	Opening balance on 1st April 1914.	Receipts during the year.	Total.	Expenditure during the year.	Closing balance on 31st March 1915.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. District Funds ...	34,22,040	76,17,018	1,10,39,058	81,28,327	29,10,731
2. District Road Funds ...	1,76,502	4,18,078	5,94,580	4,03,113	1,91,467
3. District Chaukidari Reward Fund.	67,498	34,881	1,02,379	38,735	63,644
4. Village Chaukidari Reward Fund.	91,150	4,35,309	5,26,459	4,20,524	1,05,935
5. Road Patrol Fund ...	14,701	44,427	59,128	41,150	17,978
6. Pilgrims' Lodging House Fund.	1,01,554	67,664	1,69,218	74,756	94,462
7. Cantonment Fund ...	4,251	48,222	52,473	47,925	4,548
8. Cantonment Hospital Fund	1	2,881	2,882	2,882	...
9. Town and Bazar Fund ...	5,051	5,923	10,974	7,843	3,131
10. Education Funds ...	2,504	4,401	6,905	4,309	2,596
11. Medical and Charitable Funds	5,908	17,954	23,862	18,853	5,009
12. Khondmal Road Fund ...	512	6,108	6,620	5,600	1,020
13. Port Fund	...	12,917	12,917	12,917	...
14. Municipal Funds ...	13,93,540	22,51,031	36,44,571	24,43,194	12,01,377
15. Jharia Mines Board of Health.	...	55,004	55,004	4,470	50,534
16. Jharia Water Board ...	...	3,57,050	3,57,050	25,208	3,31,842
Grand Total ...	52,85,212	1,13,78,868	1,66,64,080	1,16,79,806	49,84,274

Two new Funds were opened during the year under report. There was a slight falling off of receipts under District Funds and Municipal Funds. But the expenditure under the former increased abnormally and that under the latter considerably. Both the receipts and payments of District Road Funds were much higher than the actuals of the previous year. There was a further falling off of receipts under District Chaukidari Reward Fund, but the expenditure increased by about Rs. 8,000. The increase in receipts and expenditure in 1913-14 under Pilgrims' Lodging House Fund, as compared with those of 1914-15, was due to a special cause, *viz.*, a loan of Rs. 1,00,000 granted to the Gaya Municipality for drainage and water-works. The receipts as a whole were slightly better than those of 1913-14 but the expenditure increased considerably, which accounts for the decrease in the closing balance of the year.

Road and Public Works Cesses.

[Land Revenue Administration Report for 1914-15.]

411. Except in the districts of Angul and Sambalpur and the Kolhan Government Estate in the district of Singhbhum to which the Cess Act, 1880, does not apply, Road and Public Works Cesses were, as usual, levied during the year in the remaining nineteen districts at the full rate of one anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands or the annual net profits of mines or other immovable property. In Sambalpur the total demand of the rates for the maintenance of roads, schools and the district post under the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act amounted to Rs. 15,114 which was realised in full. **Rate at which levied.**

412. The gross rental on which cesses were assessed during the year was Rs. 9,26,12,821, which exceeded the previous year's figure by Rs. 20,00,608 ; the increase being due to (*i*) the large accessions to the annual valuation of the districts of Patna and Gaya on account of the revision of *Jamabandis* of Government Estates, (*ii*) the re-valuation operations in the district of Purnea, and (*iii*) the annual revision of assessments on forests and mines under Chapter V of the Cess Act, 1880, in the districts of Manbhum and Singhbhum. The current cess demand of the year exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 75,355. Out of the total demand of the year, both current and arrear, which amounted to Rs. 63,04,670, against Rs. 62,62,077 in the previous year, a sum of Rs. 53,26,773 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 9,51,199 exclusive of a sum of Rs. 26,698, which was remitted during the year. The percentage of total collections on the current demand was 100·89 against 100·83 in the preceding year; only eight districts attained the prescribed standard of 100 per cent. against eleven during the year 1913-14. **Demands and Realisation.**

413. The total number of certificates for disposal during the year was 56,066 against 61,164 in 1913-14, out of which 46,802 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 9,264 against 10,499 in the previous year. The number of cases pending for more than six months, however, rose from 232 in 1913-14 to 473. The total number of objections filed and disposed of was 3,193 and 3,071, respectively, against 3,608 and 3,543 in the preceding year. Certificates were cancelled in 464 and the demands reduced in 182 cases. The number of certificates in which demands were realised on the issue of preliminary notices was almost the same as in the previous year, being 11,875 against 11,879 in 1913-14, while the issue of notices for the sale of the defaulter's movable and immovable property induced payments in 20,492 and 6,714 cases respectively against 24,398 and 6,835 in the previous year. Out of 650 cases in which property was actually sold, sales were subsequently set aside in 435 cases. Payments were secured by the issue of warrants of attachment and of arrest in 258 and 129 cases respectively against 528 and 25 cases in the year 1913-14. **Working of the Certificate Procedure.**

414. Revaluation operations were in progress in the districts of Patna, Shahabad, Purnea, Cuttack, Balasore and Hazaribagh, and on a smaller scale in Bhagalpur and Palamau. They were completed in Purnea except Pargana **Valuations and Revaluations.**

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Surjapur, and resulted in an increase of Rs. 1,12,556 in the cess demand of the district. In Hazaribagh the revaluation was carried out *pari passu* with the district settlement under the provisions of Chapter II-A of the Cess Act, 1880. A Bill to amend, among other things, Chapter II-A of the Cess Act, 1880, has been introduced into the local Legislative Council in order to allow of the valuation roll being prepared on the basis of the record-of-rights as finally framed, instead of at an earlier stage in the settlement proceedings, as is at present the case. If passed into law, the amendment, it is hoped, will add greatly to the convenience and efficiency of the procedure under this chapter.

Municipal Revenue.

See Chapter III of this Report, "Municipalities".]

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Vital Statistics.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1914.—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

Climatic Conditions.

415. The rainfall in the Province as a whole was normal. The monsoon set in about the usual time and was normal during July and August except for an unusually heavy downpour of 24 inches in the Monghyr district. It withdrew unusually early, the rainfall in October being in marked defect in Orissa. Local inundations of some severity were reported from the Sitamarhi and Sadr subdivisions of Muzaffarpur and from the valley of the Kosi in Bhagalpur. They did considerable damage to the crops, but did not have any appreciable effect on the health of the people. There was a rise in the price of food-grains throughout the Province, the average price of common rice having varied from ten seers to the rupee in Sambalpur and Angul to 6·5 seers in Muzaffarpur. In the majority of the districts it was eight seers or over.

Vital Statistics.

416. The year was an unusually healthy one, the birth-rate being slightly higher than in 1913, while the death-rate, in spite of a violent outbreak of plague, was the lowest recorded since 1899. The rate of births registered during 1914 was 42·3 as against 42·10 in the preceding year, while the rate of deaths was 28·3 as against 29·14 in the preceding year. The birth-rate was slightly higher than that of the previous year and higher by 2·4 than the average of the five years from 1908—1912. The provincial birth-rate (28·3) during the year under report was in excess of the death-rate by fourteen. The rate of infant mortality among the males was 236·2 and among the females was 204·2. The rate, though slightly higher than that of the preceding year, was the lowest recorded in any Province in India.

Registration of Vital Statistics.

417. The accuracy of the registration of vital statistics still leaves much to be desired. The high figures recorded every year in the Palkot and Manoharpur circles are remarkable and steps have been taken to investigate the causes. In Municipalities, where registration is compulsory, a system was introduced by which information regarding births and deaths is collected ward by ward by the town constables, and the newly appointed Municipal Health Officers were directed to supervise and check the work. In accordance with the desire of the Government of India a typical area was selected in the Muzaffarpur district in which the vital occurrences of a selected population of about 30,000 persons are being recorded under the close supervision of three resident medical officers, who also incidentally afford medical relief in the locality. Great importance has been attached to the successful conduct of this experiment. The Sanitary Commissioner's report showed clearly that the places of pilgrimage are the chief centres for the dissemination of cholera. The introduction of a protected water-supply at Gaya should do much to reduce the spread of infection in that town. The various schemes for the improvement of the sanitation of Puri could not be considered owing to the continued delay in the issue of the report of the Pilgrim Committee.

The following account shows briefly the incidence of the chief diseases during the year under report:—

Cholera.

418. The mortality from this disease during the year under report (·9) was considerably lower than the average (2·8) of the last ten years. The death-rate fell from 2·0 in the year 1913 to ·9. The only districts in which outbreaks of any considerable extent were recorded were Cuttack, Puri, Darbhanga, Patna and Gaya. The districts of Puri and Cuttack suffer every year from the disease on account of the congregation of a large number of pilgrims during the

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Ratha Jatra festival in the former station and the importation of the disease to the latter station by the pilgrims returned from Puri. As a public piped water-supply has now been provided in Gaya, it is hoped that a considerable decrease in mortality from cholera will be effected in that station. The use of Permanganate of Potash as a preventive measure for disinfecting wells has been widely extended in the Tirhut Division, and is generally increasing in popularity.

Small-pox.

419. The provincial death-rate from small-pox in 1914 (·2) though slightly higher than the ratio of the previous year was below the average of the last decade. Outbreaks of small-pox frequently occur in the district of Patna and in the Jharia Coal Field. The Vaccination Act has been extended to the Jharia Coal Field area and proposals to extend it to some villages in the neighbourhood of Patna City are still under consideration.

Fevers.

420. The death-rate from fevers in 1914 was 17·7. This is somewhat less than the rate reported in 1913 and is also lower than the average rate of the previous decade (20·9). The decrease occurred in every district in the Province except Ranchi, Sambalpur, Manbhum and Singhbhum, the districts where it was most marked being Shahabad, Gaya and Bhagalpur. The highest mortality was recorded in Purnea and in Angul.

The following measures were taken to combat malaria :—(*a*) travelling dispensaries, (*b*) malarial lectures, (*c*) publication of pamphlets and (*d*) free distribution and sale of quinine. The travelling dispensaries maintained by Government in Saran and Shahabad have proved most useful, not only in helping to cope with epidemics, but also in bringing medical relief within reach of people living far away from the regular dispensaries. These dispensaries were established by Government merely as an experiment. It is the duty of District Boards to provide medical relief in rural areas; and now that the experiment has proved a success, Government hope that all District Boards will take steps to establish travelling dispensaries wherever the local conditions are suitable. The question whether District Boards are at present spending the prescribed proportions of their income on medical relief and sanitation was being examined after the year under report closed. Lecturers were engaged to tour in the fever-stricken areas of Purnea and Shahabad and deliver simple lectures on the causes and cure of malaria. A third lecturer was engaged to tour in Orissa. The lecture on malaria was translated into Hindi, Bengali and Urdu and 30,000 copies of it were distributed to all the schools in the Province.

Plague.

421. The year's death-rate from plague was 1·8 *per mille*. It was higher than the rate of the previous year (1·0) and also higher than the average rate of the previous decade (1·6). The highest rate of mortality was reached in the month of March when over 24,000 deaths were reported. The districts which suffered most severely were as usual Saran, Shahabad and Patna. A large temporary staff was employed during the outbreak and more than twice as many inoculations were performed than in the previous year. During the following off season a staff was retained in Patna, Saran and Sahibgunj to carry out a wholesale destruction of rats in those areas where the disease recurs regularly from year to year.

Dysentery and Diarrhœa.

422. The death-rate from dysentery and diarrhœa in 1914 (·7) was much the same as it was in the previous year, though it was considerably lower than the average of the decade (·9). The Orissa Division as usual suffered most.

Respiratory diseases.

423. The death-rate from respiratory diseases was (·1) the same as the rate of the decade. It was highest in Puri and Sambalpur.

INLAND EMIGRATION.

[Reports on Inland Emigration under the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901 (VI of 1901), for the year ending on the 30th June 1915, submitted by the Superintendents of Emigration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa.]

Administrative measures.

424. During the year an amending Act, VIII of 1915, was passed introducing several changes in the Assam Labour and Emigration Act of 1901. The most important of the changes introduced is the addition of a new Chapter VI-A

to the Act which provides for the establishment of a Central Labour Bureau, to be called "the Assam Labour Board", for supervising the work of local agents and the recruitment, engagement and emigration of the natives of India to the Labour districts of Assam. Power has been given to the Board to endorse a local agent's license whenever it has reason to believe that the conduct of the local agent has been such as to detract from his suitability to hold the license, but the power to cancel licenses still rests with the District Magistrate under Section 67 of the Act. District Magistrates have been asked to consult the Labour Board before cancelling any local agent's license on general grounds of misconduct or incompetence and instructions have been issued that notice of the cancellation of a garden sardar's certificate, under section 63 of the Act, should invariably be communicated to the Board. Under section 64 of the Act, as now amended, all applications for local agents' licenses should be submitted through the Labour Board, which will forward them, together with its recommendations, to the Superintendent of Emigration concerned.

Another important change which has been made in the law is the repeal of the whole of Chapter III and of section 90 of the Act with consequential necessary alterations in other sections. The repeal of Chapter III of the Act involves the abolition of the system of recruitment by contractors and their subordinates, and the repeal of section 90 abolishes a special class of sardars who were allowed to work independently under permits granted by their employers and countersigned by an Inspector or Magistrate. The section had not proved successful in the past, and by its repeal all garden sardars are now placed under the control of local agents.

The amendment of the definition of "emigrate" in section 2 is also of great importance, as it makes the provisions of the Act applicable to coolies from Native States as soon as they enter a British recruiting district on their way to Assam. It is hoped that this amendment will prevent the open evasion, so frequent in the past, of the restrictions imposed by law upon the recruitment of British subjects in the recruiting districts by the pretence that the person recruited was a resident of a Native State.

425. No recruitment under any form took place during the year under report in the districts of Patna, Bhagalpur, Purnea, Puri, Saran, and Muzaffarpur. The Act is not in force in Angul, and the question of extending its provisions under suitable restrictions to the Sadr subdivision of the district is now under the consideration of the Local Government. The number of emigrants of all classes recruited in the other districts during the year was 40,322 as compared with 27,996 in 1913-14. Of this number 275 were recruited by licensed contractors and 40,047 by garden sardars of various classes, against 823 and 27,173, respectively, in the year 1913-14. The large increase in the number of emigrants recruited by garden sardars, which was mainly contributed by the districts of Cuttack, Palamau, and Hazaribagh, is ascribed chiefly to the partial failure of crops in those districts. The number of emigrants shown as belonging to the Native States decreased from 4,770 in 1913-14 to 2,781. Attention was drawn in last year's Report to the practice by which sardars sent down by their employers to bring up coolies from the Native States, in which recruitment is prohibited by the laws of the States, are granted certificates by Magistrates in Assam authorizing them to carry on their operations in the neighbouring British recruiting areas, and it was observed that the practice was open to serious objection and would be brought to the notice of the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of Assam. The matter is still engaging the attention of the Local Government, which is endeavouring to find a solution of the difficulty in the regularization of recruitment in the Native States, under certain restrictions. **Number of emigrants and recruiting agencies.**

The number of emigrants recruited and registered under the ordinary procedure of Chapter IV was 1,461 as against 1,278 in the preceding year. The number of emigrants recruited by garden sardars holding special permits under section 90 of the Act fell from 457 to 425, while 38,161 unindentured emigrants were engaged by garden sardars accredited to the local agents of the approved associations against 25,438 in the previous year. The reports

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

show that cases of false description of emigrants by garden sardars still occur and local agents have been again directed to take special care to supervise the work of the sardars and do their utmost to prevent the use of any improper means of recruitment. The concessions hitherto enjoyed only by garden sardars working under the control of the three approved associations, have now been extended to all garden sardars working under local agents employed by individual employers.

Inspection of Depôts.

426. Depôts, places of accommodation, and rest-houses for emigrants are generally reported to have been properly inspected and maintained in good sanitary condition throughout the year. Only one place of accommodation, that at Lakhi-Serai, in the district of Monghyr, which was managed by the local agent of the Tea Districts Labour Supply Association, was found to be in an unsatisfactory condition. It is stated, however, that steps have since been taken to remove the defects pointed out. No outbreak of epidemic disease was reported.

Criminal cases.

427. The number of criminal cases in which emigrants were the complainants reported during the year under review was 59, or 33 less than in 1913-14, and the number of persons convicted fell from 68 to 49. The special efforts made by the local authorities in the district of Sambalpur to detect cases of illegal recruitment have met with considerable success.

Inland Labour Transport Fund.

428. The receipts and charges in connection with the transport of labour were Rs. 2,208-10-0 and Rs. 1,759-3-3, respectively, as against Rs. 3,222-12-9 and Rs. 2,015-0-6 in 1913-14.

Medical Institutions.

[Annual returns of Hospiials and Dispensaries in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1914, with notes.—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

Number of Dispensaries.

429. At the opening of the year 1914-15, there were 339 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes in this Province. Twelve dispensaries were opened and two closed, leaving a total of 349 at the end of the year. This total comprised 52 State institutions, 176 local fund, 39 railway, 17 private aided and 65 private non-aided dispensaries. Besides the regular dispensaries, two temporary dispensaries were opened by the Public Works Department at Simdega in Ranchi, and at Katra on the Cuttack-Sambalpur Road. The travelling dispensaries (seven in number) were concentrated during the year under review in the districts of Saran and Shahabad. These dispensaries have proved a success and have been transferred to various District Boards from the 1st April 1916. The Public Works Department Irrigation Dispensary at Ramnagar in Champaran and two private non-aided dispensaries, one at Gopalganj in Saran and the other at Bausi in Bhagalpur, were brought under the control and management of the District Boards concerned. The Sonbarsa dispensary in Bhagalpur was placed under the supervision of Government during the year under report. Besides the fixed dispensaries, there were also a floating dispensary in Cuttack and four itinerant dispensaries in the Balasore and Angul districts. The system of deputing medical officers of dispensaries periodically to neighbouring fairs and markets was tried during the year in eighteen districts against sixteen in the previous year and the result confirmed its value.

Number of patients treated.

430. The number of out-patients treated increased from 3,040,333 to 3,113,225. The number of in-patients also increased from 43,542 to 46,421. Besides these figures, 36,954 patients were treated in the travelling dispensaries jn Saran, Purnea and Shahabad, 10,416 by travelling agencies appointed by the District Board of Champaran, 13,014 in the itinerant dispensaries in Angul and the Khondmals and 796 by the travelling Railway Sub-Assistant Surgeons on the Eastern Bengal Railway lines in the district of Purnea. There was a marked fall of about 50,000 patients in the district of Darbhanga which is ascribed to malaria having been less prevalent in that district. As usual the largest number of patients was treated in the medical institutions in Darbhanga. Althongh the health of the general population of the Province, as indicated by mortuary

statistics, was somewhat better than in the previous year, the increase in the total number of out-patients treated during the year gave testimony to the increasing appreciation by the sick poor of the benefits afforded by these medical harities. The results are encouraging and clearly show that if the much-needed improvements in dispensaries are energetically and thoroughly carried out, still better results may be expected. Emergency cots and bedding for the temporary reception of serious cases of accident or disease were supplied in 37 out-lying dispensaries in which there were no other arrangements for in-patients.

431. The vital statistics of the Province show that there was a marked improvement in the health of the population during the year under review, he death-rate *per mille* being 28·3 against 29·14 in the preceding year. The number of patients treated in hospitals and dispensaries in all classes for some of the more important diseases, *e.g.*, small-pox, plague and tubercle of the lungs, however, showed an increase in 1914. Although the mortality from malaria was slightly lower than that of the previous year, it still accounts for the largest number of deaths. Admissions from cholera fell from 8,554 in 1913 to 4,731 in the year under review. **Diseases treated.**

432. Both the total income and the total expenditure of the dispensaries of the Province steadily increased, the former from Rs. 7,75,164, to Rs. 10,19,156 and the latter from Rs. 6,90,482 to Rs. 8,28,270. The Local Government made a series of liberal grants towards the construction of new buildings in connection with the Chapra, Muzaffarpur, Laheria Serai, Bhagalpur and Purnea Sadr hospitals, while District Boards paid Rs. 1,59,631 more than in 1913. Donations ranging from a thousand to five thousand rupees were made by the rich zamindars and the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur, but amounted to a smaller figure than the donations of 1913 which were swelled by the munificent donation of Rs. 50,000 from the Raja of Amawan for the construction of a female ward at the Bankipore General Hospital. **Finance.**

433. There were eight of these institutions in the Province or one more than in 1913, owing to the opening of the King Edward VII Memorial Leper Asylum at Gaya on the 23rd April 1914. There were altogether 1,170 leper inmates in 1914 in these Asylums and 891 were treated as out-patients, all at Puri. The total amount spent during the year for the maintenance of Leper Asylums was Rs. 89,649-11-6 of which Rs. 24,704-2-9 was paid by Government. **Leper Asylums.**

At Puri a new building providing accommodation for 21 lepers is under construction for which purpose Messrs. Gopiram Govindram of Calcutta have paid Rs. 5,500 through Rai Doctor Kailas Chandra Bose Bahadur, C.I.E., of Calcutta. The establishment at Cuttack of a Leper Asylum for Orissa is under consideration.

Lunatic Asylums.

[Triennial Report of the Patna Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore for 1912, 1913 and 1914 with notes.—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health.]

434. The total number of lunatics under confinement was 254 in 1912, 281 in 1913 and 302 in 1914, or an average of 279 against 231 in the previous triennium. The daily average was 246·30 in 1912, 275·08 in 1913 and 288·57 in 1914. There was thus a steady increase in the number under confinement. The total number of admissions (excluding readmissions) was 69 in 1912, 85 in 1913 and 94 in 1941, the average number admitted being 82 against 52 in the preceding triennium. The cause of increase in the triennium under review is primarily the creation of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa with only one asylum for the insane, but it seems also that the public are more willing than in previous years to send insane persons to the asylum, so that harmless village simpletons and harmless lunatics and even the deaf and dumb were sent to this asylum for trivial offences, their friends refusing to accept responsibility for them. The total number of lunatics discharged during 1912, 1913 and 1914 was 24, 21 and 33, respectively. Of these 21, 19 and 25 were "recovered", and **Population, Admission and Discharge.**

three, one and four were made over to the care of their friends as improved. There was a marked decrease in the percentage of recoveries during the triennium under report as compared with those in the previous three years. The decrease was mainly due to the steady accumulation of chronic incurable cases. There was an unusually high percentage of recoveries amongst females in 1914.

Sickness and Mortality.

435. The total number admitted to the asylum hospital was 173 in 1912, 275 in 1913 and 294 in 1914. The increase is attributed to the larger number of inmates and the bad health and advanced age of persons newly admitted. The number of persons cured in 1912, 1913 and 1914 was 147, 223 and 255, respectively. Another cause which affected the health was delay in fixing the pump in the Asylum well. An inferior and much-handled water-supply was to some extent responsible for the bad health of the lunatics. The proportion per cent. of deaths to daily average was 10·56 in 1912, 14·90 in 1913, and 13·86 in 1914.

Accommodation.

436. As the accommodation in the Patna Lunatic Asylum was insufficient sanction was obtained and work started in 1914 for a female ward with ten cells and a male ward with 40 beds. On completion of these the capacity of the Asylum will be raised from 306 to 356.

Criminal Lunatics.

437. Of this class 30 were admitted in 1912, 36 in 1913 and 51 in 1914. The increase was partly due to the revision of territorial jurisdiction of Lunatic Asylums owing to the constitutional changes which were made in 1912. The total number readmitted was two in 1912, two in 1913 and none in 1914. The total number discharged was three in 1912, eleven in 1913 and nine in 1914.

Finance.

438. The total amount spent for the maintenance of the Asylum was Rs. 27,553-8-5 in 1912, Rs. 38,917-12-6 in 1913 and Rs. 43,266-6-2 in 1914. The increase was due to the additional establishment and to the charges of the Public Works Department on account of special repairs, construction of a sleeping ward in 1913, and reconstruction of a portion of the compound wall, provision of a new pump for the well and certain building improvements in 1914. Receipts from the paying patients amounted to Rs. 233 in 1912, Rs. 448 in 1913 and Rs. 300 in 1914. The increase in 1913 was caused mainly by the higher rates charged for maintenance, whereas the decrease in 1914 was due to a falling off in the number of paying patients. The *net* profit on manufactures in 1912, 1913 and 1914 was Rs. 1,451-9-5, Rs. 1,557-4-2 and Rs. 1,655-3-0, respectively.

Central Asylums.

439. Plans and estimates for the new Asylum at Ranchi with accommodation for Indian insanes have been sanctioned at a cost of about Rs. 27,61,500 but work cannot be taken up until funds can be provided for it. An Asylum for European lunatics from all parts of northern India was already under construction at Ranchi at an estimated cost of Rs. 13,62,688, but it cannot be completed for want of funds. When the Ranchi Asylum for Indian lunatics is ready, the existing Asylum at Patna will no longer be required; expenditure on it has, therefore, been restricted to what is absolutely necessary to make it sufficient for present needs.

General.

440. The health of the lunatics during the three years under report was not satisfactory and the death-rate was high. It is hoped that the new accommodation provided at a cost of Rs. 25,000, and increasing the capacity of the Asylum, will have some effect in reducing the number of cases of illness.

Sanitation.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1914.]

Sanitary Improvements.

441. The total expenditure on sanitation by Municipalities during the year 1913-14, was Rs. 14,48,054 against Rs. 8,68,190 in 1912-13. This included an increase in the expenditure under "Conservancy" of Rs. 73,640. Of this *Rs. 49,400 was spent by the Patna Municipality in building a new shed for the Doms to live in, a Conservancy Depôt, and in the purchase of new conservancy carts and dust-bins, bullocks, etc., and in the Gaya Municipality Rs. 14,637 was spent in acquiring land for the establishment of a Mehtar* Colony at Dighi. A considerable expenditure was incurred during the year in Gaya in

connection with the drain-flushing scheme. During the year, the waterworks were completed at Gaya and Monghyr. The sketch projects of many important waterworks and drainage schemes were prepared. The scheme for the water-supply at Muzaffarpur has received the sanction of Government and the work is under construction. The work in connection with the drainage scheme in Monghyr is nearly completed.

442. There were three Deputy Sanitary Commissioners, the full complement of the Province. During the previous year first grade Health Officers were appointed to the Patna and Gaya Municipalities. Another Health Officer of the first grade for the Puri Municipality was also sanctioned. Nine second grade Health Officers are employed in the Municipalities of Bhagalpur, Cuttack, Monghyr, Ranchi, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Chapra and Arrah, and the appointment of a Health Officer of the second grade was sanctioned for the Deoghar Municipality. The Health Officers, it is hoped, will, before long, make their mark on the sanitary condition of the areas under their control. A set of model rules for their guidance was issued in the year under report and another set for the routine work of the Sanitary Inspectors is still under the consideration of Government. Since the school for the Sanitary Inspectors was opened in 1913, 21 students have been sent for training and twelve of them have been given certificates as Sanitary Inspectors. **Staff.**

443. The Sanitary Board was reconstituted in May 1913. The circulation of files having proved a cumbrous and slow method of business, a system of more or less frequent meetings was substituted for it. **Sanitary Board.**

444. A Sanitary Laboratory was opened at Gulzarbagh in June 1914, and the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar Circle, was placed in charge of it. **Sanitary Laboratory.**

Vaccination.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1914.]

445. The rate of mortality from small-pox was ·22 against ·11 per 1,000 in the previous year. The following districts had a higher mortality than that prevailing in the Province generally:—Balasore (·90), Patna (·48), Monghyr (·46), Bhagalpur (·35), Shahabad (·32), Purnea (·30), Manbhum (·43), and Singhbhum (·45). **Small-pox and Vaccination.**

The total number of operations performed by all agencies amounted to 1,314,042 against 1,323,948 of the previous year. Of these 1,295,179 were performed by the Vaccination Department and the number of re-vaccinations rose by 34,175. The percentage of successful operations during the year was 98·12 against 98·9 in the preceding year. In the towns in which the Vaccination Act is in force 82·41 per cent. of the total number of children under one year of age were successfully vaccinated against 77·70 in the preceding year.

The total number of vaccinations decreased in the year under review, the principal reason being the inadequate and irregular supply of vaccine. Work began at the new Vaccine Depôt at Nankum in September, but owing to the insufficient supply of calves, it was found necessary to obtain lymph for about half the Province from the Patwa Dangar Depôt in the United Provinces. Steps were, however, taken to ensure a proper supply of calves and the Nankum Depôt should in future be able to provide sufficient lymph for the whole Province.

The Poisons Act.

[Report on the working of the Poisons Act during 1914.]

446. The requirements of the law are generally known, but they were again notified through the usual agencies. In some districts cattle-poisoning was still prevalent on a large scale, but reliable statistics were not available as to the number of persons actually so engaged. The total number of licenses granted during the year was 65 under sections 2 and 89, under section 4 as against 92 and 69, respectively, in the previous year. There were eight prosecutions during the year under the Act of which four resulted in convictions. **The working of the Poisons Act.**

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

SEE—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 220—225.

Education.

[Report on the Progress of Education in Bihar and Orissa for 1914-15.—Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Educational.]

General Statistics.

447. The total expenditure on Public Instruction during the year 1914-15 was Rs. 85,79,446. Of this sum Rs. 2,63,441 was spent on European Schools to which Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 1,50,371. The sum of Rs. 83,16,005 spent on Indian Education was contributed as follows :—

Provincial Revenues, Rs. 35,21,515; District funds, Rs. 14,13,550; Municipal funds, Rs. 1,08,196; Fees, Rs. 20,67,876; Private sources, Rs. 12,04,868. The direct expenditure amounted to Rs. 53,31,926 and the indirect expenditure, Rs. 32,47,520. Of the direct expenditure Rs. 3,89,836 was spent on Colleges, Rs. 14,46,871 on Secondary Schools, Rs. 25,36,834 on Primary Schools and Rs. 9,58,385 on Training and Special Schools. Of the indirect expenditure more than eighteen lakhs were spent on buildings and purchase of furniture and apparatus, about six lakhs on Direction and Inspection, about a lakh on Scholarships and Stipends and about seven lakhs on Hostel charges.

In British territory alone there were 29,644 institutions attended by 836,209 scholars which represent 16·1 of the total population of school-going age. The number of male pupils was 721,760 or 28·5 per cent. of the male population of school-going age and of female pupils 114,449 or 4·3 per cent. of the female population of school-going age.

Separate figures have again been obtained for Urban and Rural Schools. These show 1,507 schools with 84,234 pupils in the urban areas and 25,163 schools with 705,102 pupils in rural areas. The total direct expenditure on the former was Rs. 20,52,780 and on the latter Rs. 31,82,289. The apparent decrease in the number of schools and in the number of pupils in rural areas is due solely to the exclusion of figures for the Feudatory States, for in British territory the year has been marked by an increase of 1,097 in the total number of schools and of 29,243 in the total number of pupils. The rate of increase in the number of pupils is almost $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. This comes short of what is desired but nevertheless indicates progress.

Arts Colleges.

448. The number and classification of the Arts Colleges in the Province remained unaltered. There was an increase in the total number of students, from 2,062 to 2,227, and in the direct expenditure from Rs. 3,08,286 to Rs. 3,50,070, but the indirect expenditure declined from Rs. 2,69,041 to Rs. 1,65,354. The large decrease under the latter head is somewhat misleading, for the figure for 1913-14 was abnormally inflated by the large expenditure incurred during that year on the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Patna and Ravenshaw Colleges, on the acquisition of land for the Bhumihar Brahman College and the Bihar National College, and on a grant for the erection of new laboratories for St. Columba's College. The expenditure during 1912-13, with which that for the year under report may be compared, was only Rs. 81,411. The most important item of indirect expenditure in 1914-15 was the grant of Rs. 42,000 given for the improvement of the private colleges. This sum represents two instalments of the annual grant of

Rs. 21,000, which has been assigned to this Province as part of the recurring grant of Rs. 1,10,000 first given by the Government of India in the year 1905-06 for the improvement of the private colleges in Bengal.

The large increase in the number of candidates for admission to the two Government Colleges made it necessary, soon after the Province was created, to prepare a scheme for the creation of the additional Professorships and Lecturerships required to enable the increasing number of students to be efficiently taught. In last year's report it was noticed that three Professorships in the Indian Educational Service (two for the Patna College and one for the Renshaw College) were sanctioned during the year 1913-14. These three posts formed part of a larger scheme which included also the creation of a Professorship of History in the Indian Educational Service at Cuttack and the addition of ten posts to the Provincial Educational Service (six for Patna and four for Cuttack) and twelve to the Subordinate Educational Service (eight for Patna and four for Cuttack). Sanction to these posts was received only at the end of the year, but before the arrival of sanction the need for more Professors and Lecturers became so apparent at the commencement of the session in July, 1914, that it was found necessary to ask the Government of India to permit the creation of a number of temporary Professorships and Lecturerships pending the final sanction of the Secretary of State to the whole scheme, and seventeen such posts were actually sanctioned (twelve for Patna and five for Cuttack).

At Patna College the total number of students was 360. This number is six less than that of the previous year, an unexpected result after the increase in the staff and in Hostel accommodation. In spite of strenuous exertions the additional staff and accommodation were provided only after the session had commenced and thus their desired effect was lost. This year the full staff will be available at the beginning of the session and a considerable rise in the number of students may be confidently expected.

At Ravenshaw College the number of students rose from 449 to 488 and the direct expenditure from Rs. 92,116 to Rs. 95,159.

The question of provincialising the Bhumihar Brahman College was not decided during the year. Meanwhile the number of students rose from 235 to 265, the direct expenditure from Rs. 23,014 to Rs. 31,478 and the cost of educating a student from Rs. 103-3-3 to Rs. 112-6-9.

Secondary Education.

449. Excluding figures for the Feudatory States the number of Secondary Schools for boys rose from 285 to 303, the number of their pupils from 48,269 to 52,933 and the expenditure from Rs. 10,47,617 to Rs. 11,64,501. The increase in pupils is satisfactory, amounting to nearly 10 per cent. The number of High Schools for boys rose from 88 to 91, the number of their pupils from 27,972 to 30,887 and the expenditure from Rs. 7,85,201 to Rs. 8,47,547. For Middle English Schools for boys the figures were 212 schools, 22,046 pupils and Rs. 3,16,954 against 197 schools, 20,297 pupils and Rs. 2,62,416 respectively. The average annual fee rose from Rs. 19·6 to Rs. 19·8 in the case of High Schools and from Rs. 5·5 to Rs. 6·3 in the case of Middle English Schools—a result which indicates an increase in the number of pupils in the higher classes in Middle Schools as the scale of fees has, for the most part, remained unchanged.

Three new High Schools were recognised during the year, namely, the Moslem Seminary at Cuttack, the School at Satyabadi near Puri, and the Foley Rajput School at Chapra. The Government School at Pusa and the schools at Madhepur and Laheria Serai in the district of Darbhanga all opened High School classes during the year, but were not recognised as High Schools by the University before March the 31st.

Of the new Middle English Schools, two are in the Patna Division, three in Tirhut, four in Bhagalpur, two in Orissa and four in Chota Nagpur, a total of fifteen. The increase in number is gratifying and one may look to such increases to solve in part the problem of overcrowding in the High Schools.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the building programme for High Schools. The two most important buildings completed were the new buildings of St. John's High School at Ranchi and the extension of the Dumka Zila School. The purchase of the Diamond Jubilee College building has done much to relieve the congestion in the Monghyr Zila School. New buildings are in progress for the Government High Schools at Patna, Muzaffarpur, Ranchi and Puri, and extensions to those at Purnea, Gaya, Darbhanga, and Chaibassa. Other schemes are under consideration.

Primary Education.

450. The total number of Middle Vernacular, Upper Primary and Lower Primary Schools rose during the year from 21,052 to 21,457, that of their pupils from 604,994 to 612,084, and the expenditure from Rs. 21,35,422 to Rs. 23,98,825. There was thus a gain of 405 schools and 7,090 pupils. The cost of educating each pupil rose from Rs. 3-12-0 to Rs. 4-1-10.

The number of Middle Vernacular Schools declined from 127 to 122 owing to the conversion of three schools in Orissa, two in Chota Nagpur, and three in Bhagalpur, to the Middle English status, while two new Middle Vernacular Schools were opened in Orissa and one in Bhagalpur. It will thus be seen that the decrease is apparent only, and it is satisfactory to note that the number of pupils rose from 9,553 to 10,419. The expenditure increased from Rs. 78,110 to Rs. 1,17,431. The rise in expenditure is accounted for by the fact that each of the Government Middle Vernacular Schools has now been provided with a staff on the standard scale, *i.e.*, with five teachers in the Vernacular Teachers' Service, and by the large grant made during the year for the improvement of schools of this status in District Board areas.

The number of Upper Primary Schools rose from 1,579 to 1,650, an increase of 71. This rise, which was accompanied by an increase of 5,269 in the number of pupils, was shared by all the five Divisions of the Province.

The number of Lower Primary Schools rose from 19,346 to 19,685, an increase of 339.

The Training of Teachers.

451. Sanction was received during the year to the scheme mentioned in last year's report in accordance with which the Patna Training College will be enlarged so as to accommodate 40 students and will teach up to the B.T. standard. Effect will be given during the current session to this change, which involves the appointment of a second professor in the Indian Educational Service and of three professors in the Provincial Educational Service in place of the temporary professor hitherto employed on a salary of Rs. 200 outside the graded services. Meanwhile the College has continued to work on the old lines, the chief event during the past year having been the formation of a Governing Body consisting of the Principal of the College, the Inspector of Schools of the Patna Division, and the Headmaster of the Patna Collegiate School. The new building for the College has been almost completed and that for the Hostel is in progress. The cost of the College rose during the year from Rs. 17,005 to Rs. 19,922. There were thirteen students on the roll on March 31st, of whom eleven were successful in the L.T. Examination.

The number of First-grade Training Schools remained five, while the number of their pupils rose from 365 to 371. The new buildings at Patna have been completed and those at Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur are nearly ready. The school at Ranchi will shortly move into the buildings to be vacated by the Zila School, but certain additions will be required to the Zila School hostel in order to render it large enough for its new purpose. At Cuttack a new hostel is under construction.

Excluding the figures for the Feudatory States the number of Training Schools for Gurus and Muhammadan teachers remained 116, though there was a slight decrease in the number of pupils from 1,769 to 1,736. Most of the schools have now been provided with buildings of the new type and their chief want is the provision of a larger and better paid staff. Sanction was accorded during the year to a scheme for placing the Head Pandits and Head Maulvis in the Vernacular Teachers' Service, for raising the pay of the second and third Pandits to Rs. 15 and Rs. 12, respectively, and for giving each school a fourth

pandit. Effect will be given to this scheme as soon as the financial situation improves.

Law Colleges, Medical, Engineering, Surveying and Commercial Schools.

452. The number of students in the Patna Law College rose from 109 to 113, the number in the B.L. classes being 82 and in the Pleadership classes 31. The College still remains in its old quarters, but the Medical Department are anxious to obtain the site and to use it for the construction of a Tuberculosis Ward for the Patna General Hospital. Enquiries are therefore being made as to whether other temporary arrangements are possible pending the erection of the Patna University buildings.

In the Medical Schools at Bankipore and Cuttack the number of students declined from 219 to 216, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 66,437 to Rs. 71,946.

In the Bihar School of Engineering the number rose from 123 to 158. The increase is a matter for satisfaction. The number of admissions to the Sub-Overseer classes was 61, the highest figure reached since the year 1909-10, and it is gratifying to notice that the decline which commenced after that year has been arrested. The cost of the school rose from Rs. 73,885 to Rs. 97,976, but this total includes two unusual items, namely, one of Rs. 11,000 for furniture and tools supplied to different schools in the Province, and one of Rs. 10,139 for the cost of the stores and tools from the old Saw Mills attached to the Opium Factory at Patna. The chief incidents in the history of the school were the erection of an additional workshop which was greatly needed, and the acquisition of a large plot of land to the south of the school for use as a ay-ground and for future development. These two improvements represent part of the larger scheme for the improvement of the school which is now under consideration by the Government of India. Another part of that scheme is the appointment of a second Foreman-Instructor to cope with the growing demands for trade instruction in the artisan classes.

The roll number of the Cuttack Survey School declined from 49 to fourteen. A proposal was submitted to Government during the year for raising the school to the status of an Engineering School teaching up to the Sub-Overseer standard, and the matter is under consideration.

Industrial and Technical Schools.

453. Excluding the figures for the Feudatory States the number of schools rose from 34 to 37 and that of their pupils from 862 to 1,085. The expenditure also rose from Rs. 46,623 to Rs. 52,201.

The Education of Indian girls and women.

454. In last year's report it was noticed that for the first time the number of girls in girls' schools was larger than that of girls in boys' schools, the figures being 51,967 and 50,797, respectively. This year the figures are 61,732 and 52,221, while the number of girls' schools has risen from 2,165 to 2,670. The total increase is thus, 11,189 pupils or nearly 11 per cent., which is decidedly satisfactory. It will be seen that the Department, while not discouraging co-education, is doing its best to provide separate schools for girls where such schools are preferred. It is a matter of satisfaction that the increased enrolment is shared by both classes of schools, though schools for girls have made much the greater advance.

The chief event during the year was the constitution of the Female Education Committee which met at Ranchi during the month of June. The Committee in their report surveyed the whole field of female education and their conclusions should prove a useful basis for future improvements. The report was circulated for criticism, and it was not possible for orders to be passed on the Committee's suggestions before the end of the year under review.

The number of High Schools for girls was three, while that of their pupils rose from 317 to 337. The expenditure increased from Rs. 33,047 to Rs. 39,171. The number of girls in the Ravenshaw Girls' School rose from 169 to 179. The provision of new buildings for the school is still under consideration. The school at Bankipore was provincialised in November. The number of its pupils rose from 79 to 102, but there are still only seventeen girls above the primary stage. The number of girls at Giridih continued to be small, the average for the year having been 50.

Whilst the number of Middle English Schools remained four, that of th pupils rose from 432 to 467. A commodious new building was complted during the year for the Anglican Mission School at Ranchi.

Middle Vernacular Schools rose from seven to ten in number. A decline of one school is shown in Tirhut, as a peripatetic teacher, who formerly taught up to the Middle Vernacular Standard, taught her classes during the year up to the Upper Primary Standard only.

Primary Schools for girls rose from 1,756 to 2,064 and the number of the pupils increased from 42,201 to 47,774. The increase is undoubtedly due to the fact that more liberal stipends are at present given in girls' schools than in boys' schools, a consideration which has led a number of gurus to close their boys' schools and take to the more profitable education of girls.

The number of Model Girls' Schools rose from 35 to 36 owing to the opening of a school at Pusa. The question of transferring these schools to the management of local bodies is under consideration.

Whilst the number of Training Classes remained eight, that of women under instruction declined from 121 to 111. Expenditure rose from Rs. 32,113 to Rs. 32,334.

European Schools.

455. The number of recognised European Schools remained nineteen. There are also two unrecognised schools at Madhupur and Dinapur, respectively. The Inspector is considering the establishment of new schools at Bankipore and Sakchi and the arrangements to be made for educating the European children on the Jharia Coal-field. The number of pupils rose from 1,085 to 1,093 and expenditure from Rs. 2,12,165 to Rs. 2,63,441. All the recognised schools are aided and four of them are boarding schools. The number of boarders declined by one to 466.

Muhammadan Education.

456. The number of Muhammadan pupils in Colleges rose from 398 to 459, in Secondary Schools from 7,642 to 8,079, but in Primary Schools the number declined from 36,451 to 35,985, whereas in special schools, the number rose from 47,067 to 54,875 and in private institutions from 11,079 to 11,693, a total increase of 8,454 or 8·2 per cent. The increase, which is most satisfactory, is shared by all the Divisions except Orissa, where there was a small decline. In the last-mentioned Division, however, the percentage of Muhammadan pupils to the Muhammadan population of school-going age is returned as 50.

No change took place in the number of training schools for Muhammadan teachers, but sanction has been given to the opening of three more such schools, one in the Chota Nagpur Division, one at Samastipur and one at Bhadrak.

The number of recognised Madrasas rose from fifteen with 1,031 pupils to sixteen with 1,266 pupils and that of unrecognised Madrasas from 345 with 5,176 pupils to 361 with 5,304 pupils. The details of the scheme for establishing a Government Madrasa at Bankipore are being worked out. It is hoped that the project will not long be delayed, for undoubtedly the establishment of a Government Madrasa will be followed by a much-needed rise in the efficiency of the Madrasa under private management.

The Education of Special Classes, Sanskrit tols, and the Reformatory School.

457. There is no institution in the Province designed specially for the education of children of the upper classes, though the question of establishing a public school similar to that recently opened at Hastings House in Calcutta has been mooted. During the year administrative approval was accorded to the construction of a hostel in connection with the Ranchi Zila School for the sons of Zamindars from the Chota Nagpur Division.

The number of recognised Sanskrit tols rose during the year from 294 to 349 and that of their pupils from 8,380 to 9,581. At the same time there was a decrease in the number of unrecognised tols from 310 to 272 and in the number of their pupils from 3,644 to 3,286. The net result is an increase of seventeen in the number of schools and 843 in the number of pupils, which is satisfactory. Detailed proposals are now being prepared for the establishment of a Bihar and Orissa Sanskrit Association to control the tols and the Sanskrit

examinations in this Province, while the establishment of a Sanskrit College at Muzaffarpur teaching up to the *Tirtha* standard has been sanctioned and the necessary buildings are being constructed. The question of establishing a similar College at Puri is under consideration.

The number of pupils in the Reformatory School rose from 423 to 439, of whom 263 came from Bengal, 160 from Bihar and Orissa and sixteen from Assam. The expenditure on the school rose from Rs. 1,17,422 to Rs. 1,22,792 owing to the appointment of a Foreman Trade Instructor and to the rise in the price of materials. The receipts declined slightly, the figure being Rs. 29,650 against Rs. 31,370. The revised Code of Regulations for the school has been recently sanctioned.

458. Excluding figures for the Feudatory States the number of hostels rose from 426 to 469 and that of their inmates from 13,928 to 14,455. The expenditure rose from Rs. 4,97,503 to Rs. 5,51,518. Hostels are growing in popularity and the figures show that the department is doing its best to meet the demand for them. **Hostels, Physical Training, and Moral Instruction.**

Arrangements were again made for the training of a class of drill-masters under the Young Men's Christian Association at Calcutta. The question of appointing a whole-time Physical Instructor for this Province is under consideration.

In accordance with the orders of Government on the report of the Committee on Moral and Religious Education, a short period is now being devoted weekly to moral instruction at certain High Schools. The measures taken in each case are being carefully watched and will be discussed at the Inspectors' divisional conferences. It has not been found possible to attempt the experiment of permitting religious teaching in undenominational schools. Certain schools were selected for experimental measures, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, but practical difficulties in each case prevented the formation of classes for this purpose.

459. During the year three important Committees were convened by Government to discuss Female Education, Technical and Industrial Education, and the introduction of a School-Leaving Certificate Examination, respectively. The proceedings of the two former were published for criticism, and these, together with the criticisms received, were under consideration by Government when the year closed. Orders were passed on the reports of the Committees convened during the previous year, except those of the Patna University Committee and the Bihar School of Engineering Committee, in the case of each of which a reference to the Government of India has been made. The Resolutions passed by Government on the proceedings of committees mentioned in last year's report have laid down for the department a definite policy to be followed in the matter of Primary Education, Sanskrit Education, Muhammadan Education, and Moral and Religious Education. The orders on the report of the School Hygiene Committee contain instructions on subsidiary points, but the main question discussed, *viz.*, that of providing medical inspection for schools and scholars, presents special difficulties and is still under consideration. **Conferences and Committees.**

Literature and the Press.

[Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Educational.]

460. The total number of Hindi books published during the year 1914-15 was 154. The bulk of these consisted of Lyrics and School books and works on mythology, religion, and miscellaneous subjects, none being worthy of special mention. Only 32 books were published in Urdu, the majority of which consisted of works on religion and miscellaneous subjects; none of these call for any special notice. The total number of Oriya books published during the year was 504. Most of these consisted of works on mythology and religion, poetry and miscellaneous subjects. Two of these are deserving of notice: (1) Madhabkar Nidana, and (2) Giti Kathamala. The former is a treatise on the knowledge of diagnosis of different sorts of diseases in original Sanskrit text, with Oriya **Publications registered.**

INSTRUCTION.

renderings by Babu Sudarshan Nanda Sharma. The latter is a poetical work consisting of a collection of ancient tales composed by Srimati Indumati Patamahadebi, Rani of Dompara Estate in the district of Cuttack.

Newspapers.

461. The total number of newspapers and periodicals published during the year was 60 as compared with 57 in 1913. Of these two ceased publication during the year. Twelve newspapers and periodicals were published in English while three had both English and Vernacular editions; the rest were in Vernacular. Patna, where the two most important newspapers, the *Beharee* and the *Express*, are published, was the chief centre of newspaper activity. Seven papers published in the Vernacular and one published in English reported a circulation of 1,000 or over.

Scientific and Literary Societies in Bihar and Orissa.

SEE—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PAGE 229.

Arts and Sciences.

Nil.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Archæology.

Excavation.

462. The excavations at Pataliputra which have been undertaken on behalf of Mr. Ratan Tata of Bombay are in progress. Nothing of special interest has come to notice in the course of this year's work. Traces and fragments of some buildings, walls and ramparts connected with the Mauryan Palace discovered in 1913 have been found. These relics corroborate the supposition formed by Dr. Spooner, the local Superintendent of Archæology, as to the Persian character of the building and its architecture. Scattered objects of interest, such as terra-cotta figures, seals and fragments of Mauryan polished stones, have also been found.

Conservation.

463. The Local Government have devoted Rs. 41,886 to conservation work during the year. Besides the annual repairs to various monuments some special work had to be done in connection with Hasan Sur Shah's tomb and Sher Shah's tomb at Sassaram in the district of Shahabad, the Jum'a Masjid and the old masonry bridge at Hadaf in the Rajmahal subdivision of the Santal Parganas, the Chitrakarini Temple at Bhubaneswar in the Puri district.

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